FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

An unattributed commentary carried by Tehran radio on 31 December bluntly warned that a "trial of the hostages...might lead to their execution." In a rebroadcast of the commentary on 1 January, however, the radio deleted the execution threat, saying instead that a "trial of the hostages will lay bare the unwarranted interference of imperialism in other countries." Both the original threat and subsequent rewording came at the end of the commentary's review of the negotiations and Iran's conditions for release of the hostages and its denunciation of U.S. propaganda efforts and military threats. Replaying earlier calls for a trial, the commentary said that if the United States "does not return Iran's assets the trial of the hostages is certain" and added that Iran "will never compromise" over the conditions or be conciliatory, something U.S. officials "should clearly bear...in mind."

Meanwhile, Ayatollah Yahya Nuri called on the Iranian Government to halt its negotiations with the United States over release of the hostages and to put them on trial immediately. According to AFP, the clergyman told the newspaper Tehran TIMES that the current negotiations are "misguided" and that Iran's conditions have been wrongly portrayed as a ransom demand, something contrary to Islamic law.

Tehran radio, citing the newspaper ETTELA'AT, reported that Islamic Republican Party leader Ayatollah Mohammad Hoseyn Beheshti also stressed that the trial of the hostages will proceed if the United States does not accept Iran's conditions for their release.

Iranian Domestic Affairs

According to PARS, Iranian Justice Minister Ebrahim Ahadi abruptly resigned on 31 December. While the news agency gave no reason for his action, a Tehran radio correspondent, in an interview with Ayatollah Beheshti, noted that Ahadi had complained in an earlier television interview that the Council of Guardians had severely limited his authority, possibly prompting his resignation. In his comments Beheshti acknowledged that some questions had arisen regarding the role of the justice minister in the operation of the judicial branch and as a member of the executive branch.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Call for Action--Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri urged the Iranian Armed Forces to take the offensive in the war with Iraq. In a telegram to Ahvaz religious leaders, cited by PARS, Montazeri asked whether the present military strategy of delay is worth the cost in lives and whether the Supreme Defense Council "has clearly informed" Ayatollah Khomeyni about the current situation. He called on the Ahvaz clergy to raise the issue with Khomeyni and in the Majlis.

According to Tehran radio, an Ahvaz deputy did raise the question before a Majlis session, asking the armed forces commander in chief to explain the "reason for the lack of effective action" against the Iraqi forces.

Military Situation--While Tehran radio noted that falling temperatures and rain have caused "a marked decrease" in the fighting, it continued to report artillery exchanges around Ilam, along the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr highway, and Iraqi missile attacks on Dezful, Susangerd and Abadan. Iraqi artillery continued to pound Ahvaz, the radio said, killing 44 residents. An Iraqi General Command communique carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses reported small skirmishes between Iraqi and Iranian troops near Mehran, Shush, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Susangerd.

Israel

Israeli Air Force planes attacked Palestinian bases near Tyre and An-Nabatiyah in Lebanon on 31 December. Jerusalem radio, citing an Israeli Defense Forces spokesman, reported that Israeli pilots also downed two Syrian MiG's that tried to intercept the raid, suffering no losses themselves.

Afghanistan

President Babrak Karmal asserted that his forces have "broken the back" of the insurgency in Afghanistan and claimed that the rebel remnants will "disappear soon." In an interview with UNITED NEWS OF INDIA, reported by AFP, Karmal indicated that a large number of the insurgents had been "liquidated" in the current offensive, a claim echoed by Kabul radio in its recent reports of anti-insurgent activity. The Afghan president described the Soviet forces in the country as a "reserve" against possible outside agression.

Education Minister Anahita Ratebzad also stressed Afghanistan's success against the rebels in remarks reported by TASS. Ratebzad, who is in India to attend a women's conference, said that Afghanistan "has put down on the whole" the "counterrevolutionary elements and is fully in control" of the country.

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'ARAFAT'S PALESTINE STRUGGLE ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS

NC312106 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1820 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Address by PLO Executive Committee Chairman and Commander in Chief of the Palestinian revolution's Forces Yasir 'Arafat--identified by announcer by nom de guerre "Brother Abu 'Ammar"--on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the Palestinian armed revolution; date and place on given--recorded]

[Excerpts] We have assaulted the elapsing year with all the revolutionary strength at our disposal. We have challenged the impossible and we have crossed time to confirm certain firm facts in this part of the world.

The imperialists are trying to plunder the wealth of this nation and are racing with time to suck its blood, its resources and its financial and economic means of livelihood, using toward that end the watchdog represented by this invading Israeli military clique and this As-Sadat [word indistinct] who has accepted them as masters and who is giving them all the facilities required in the lofty Egyptian citadel which he has handed over to them, facilities for their movements and their plots.

This faithful group [the Palestinian revolution] has marched on despite the worst plots and severest storms. How have our strugglers managed to stand fast? Their hearts are full of faith, conviction, and dedication in practice and in deed. This is the miracle made by the masses with their will, determination, and honesty despite this great concentration of enemy forces and plots and their huge materials and military superiority which is an integral part of this diabolic imperialist, colonialist, Zionist, racist and fascist machine which is led and moved by the United States. The United States feeds it with the requirements of life and aggression ranging from arms, supplies, and advanced technology to kill our children, our women and our people and to occupy our land and homeland. Faith, however, makes miracles and achieves victory.

This revolution was born to stay and to triumph. We know that the aim of the plot is to get rid of the Palestinian number and to eliminate it from the Middle East formula as they boast about and talk about this sinful flow of options. They had imagined that with an American declaration, followed by an Israeli internal preparation, followed by As-Sadat reiteration, awaiting another agent to join the bandwagon of the new capitulationist settlement, they imagined that they could carry out their plan and their scheme. They forget, or pretend to forget, that the epic and the revolutionary miracle of the Palestinian revolution stemming from the hearts of the Arab masses and from the conscience of our people, constitute a number which cannot be overlooked, jumped over or ignored. Without this number the peace formula will not survive and the situation in the Middle East will not stabilize. They may be able to deal a blow here or there, which is part of the law of conflict and confrontation ranging from hit and run, to attrition, to mutual attrition, but they must remember well the mettle of this revolution.

The United States has sent its three military fleets to surround and beseige the region and to control its outlets in the Gulf, the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean. It has managed to establish for itself bases on the island of Masirah in Oman, in Barbara and Mombasa--in Somalia and in Kenya--and in Ra's Banas in Egypt, the new base for the rapid intervention force in Egypt.

Then the war between fraternal Iraq and Iran began. So, we had to move without delay because it is a fire inside the house, inside our region, a fire that will devour very much. We are against this war because it is not in the interests of anyone except world imperialism and Zionism and their allies. The war must stop and everyone must do everything possible, and more, and must use all resources and means and ways to stop the war, remotely from certain sensitivities which might exist here or there, so that our strategic depth may be restored, from Tyre to (Khurasan). This war must stop and mature and brave decisions must be made, because it [the war] is the beginning of Balkanization and fragmentation, God forbid, for which our enemies are planning, for our region, in order to destroy us as brothers. Let us realize that it is not a war that concerns the Iraqi brothers or the Iranian brothers alone. It also concerns the Palestinian revolution, and it also concerns our Arab nation and all the free and honest forces in our region. This is why we acted quickly through the nonaligned states at the invitation of the nonaligned movement coordination bureau. The committee stemming from it held its first meeting in Belgrade and it has continued its work. We cannot claim to have achieved solutions, but we have at least succeeded in containing the fire. This is an important point. We have succeeded in containing the fire and in preventing the expansion of the area of the fighting. We are in need [words indistinct] and bold decisions in times of difficulty. It is an inevitable noble duty. We are confident that our brothers in Iran and Iraq are aware of all this.

We were then surprised by Arab division just before the Amman summit conference. As is well known to everyone, our Algerian brothers and we had tried to prevent Arab division and made two overtures to save the situation. However, insistance on convening the summit in the way it did was surprising. Immediately later on, events intertwined in such a way that dissension among ourselves would have been imminent, had it not been for certain moves that curbed dissension.

We found that we had to continue work with other Arab brothers to restore full solidarity so as to confront the plans of our nation's enemies and the Camp David plot, both its new and old forms, and ensuing autonomy, economic colonialism, taming of [our revolution], more settlements and expropriation of our land, stealing our water sources, expulsion and murder of Palestinian leaders and forcing people off their land. Plots were being hatched and the grip was tightened.

Given all of this, brothers, the responsibilities shouldered by the Palestinian revolution are increased. We are indivisible part of the Arab nation. Whatever befalls the Arab nation harms us and whatever strengthens it strenghtens us as well. The unity of the Arab stand toward the unified central aim of our Arab nation, toward usurped Palestine, is the solid ground on which our revolution stands side by side with the strong revolutionary popular ground of our people, revolutionaries and (?nation).

Brothers, it was no coincidence that the Security Council should meet (?six) times to discuss the Palestinian question. It was also no coincidence that the UN General Assembly should convene an extraordinary session to discuss the Palestinian people issue. [Words indistinct] the UN resolutions recognize our rights and the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Then at last and not least comes Europe and its role and the political declaration. Is it merely a separate declaration, or has it extensions and interactions? We must assess it accurately without giving it more than its true size and efficacy given our awareness of the balance of power throughout the world. Can Europe, especially the EEC, deflect from the U.S. will and decision? (?This is only a question), as Muskie and other U.S. officials have said more than once.

Our revolutionary deluge was not confined to the Palestinian people but extended to the entire Arab world. Our revolution affected the march of the Arab liberation movement and interacted with the world liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Our revolution influenced and was influenced by them to make this unique fabric of great revolutionary action which unleashed Arab potential that affected the trend of events in our area. Is this not a creative and inventive revolution? Is this not an indication that our people were the fuel, light and sacrifice of the revolution. This was evident in the recent general mobilization decision which shook our enemies when the call for general mobilization turned into voluntary flow of people.

Do not Begin's unjust campaigns against us express precisely our revolution's strength and the importance of our question, despite all attempts of distortion and news blackout? This is because our question is the established fact and the difficult and important figure in the Middle East equation. When he attacked our revolution in his first two statements after his victory in the U.S. presidential elections--whether Reagan wants it or not--he placed us on the top of the U.S. problems and troubles side by side with all that worries the new U.S. administration--SALT II, attempts to regain U.S. prestige, restoration of U.S. hegemony and influence, and the cold and hot confrontation in the world at large.

However, let those near and distant know, whether Reagan made hostile statements against our people and revolution prior or after his election as a U.S. president, and whether Peres or Begin assumes power over the Israeli military ruling band, there will be no solution, stability, peace or security if our people's inalienable rights are skipped--all our rights, including our right to return to our land, to determine our future and to establish our independent state on our Palestinian national soil. Let everyone know that the Palestinian option is alone the option of a just and permanent peace in the Middle East, because it is the peace consecrated by international law through the UN Charter and resolutions that emphasize our national inalienable rights. There will be no peace without Palestinian peace; there will be no security without Palestinian security and no stability without stability for our people in their free independent state on our national Palestinian soil. There will be no solution without the Palestinian figure which is the basic and difficult figure in the Middle East equation. With this determination, will, insistence and revolutionary admancy that heeds no fatigue, hesitation or retraction, we will (?go ahead) firmly, strongly and confidently to construct our history and that of the Arab nation.

PLO'S QADDUMI ON U.S., EUROPEAN MIDEAST ROLE

NC020640 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 2104 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Interview with PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi, identified by his nom de guerre "Abu al-Lutf," on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution; date, place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] We did not attend the Arab summit conference. The reasons were contained in the statement issued by the Executive Committee. However, there has been much talk--newspaper talk and political talk--about the question of Palestinian representation. In your opinion, is this a sharp issue now or, to put it in another way, what is your assessment of the question of Palestinian representation, at the Amman conference and afterwards?

[Answer] The Arab divisions and the problems facing many Arab countries, whether individually or collectively, have given many anti-PLO international circles the chance to work for the replacement of the PLO and the removal of the PLO from the scene of events by claiming that the Jordanian alternative is the only possible alternative for the settlement of the Middle East problem. We have heard certain Israeli circles, especially of the Israeli Labor Party, and we have heard some of the advisers of the U.S. President-elect Reagan say that there is an alternative to the PLO. The attitude of the socialist international and the division within the socialist international as a result of the views raised--which are considered a retraction from the previous position of the socialist international--have had a negative effect on the situation in the Middle East.

This is only one aspect. The other aspect is that the basic fact is that the PLO is the legitimate representative. Even the Amman conference could not but emphasize this fact. This was confirmed by the highest authority in Jordan. The PLO will therefore remain the sole legitimate representative.

[Question] Brother Abu al-Luft, the PLO has always said that it did not care who came to the White House, be it Carter or Reagan, a Democrat or a Republican. The PLO says more or less the same thing regarding the Zionist entity--that it does not care who is in power, be it Begin or the Labor Party. Naturally this is generally true, but there must be some difference between the Carter administration and the Reagan administration and between the Likud and the Labor Party, especially regarding the Palestine question. Now a new U.S. administration is about to take over. The Republicans are moving into the White House. Also, there is a strong possibility of a new Zionist administration under the Labor Party. How does the Palestinian leadership evaluate these new developments--what has happened in the United States and what is expected to happen in the Zionist entity?

[Answer] The PLO does give attention to who occupies the White House and who forms the Israeli Cabinet. The PLO cannot ignore these facts, no matter how unfavorable these facts may be to the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people. At the same time, however, it bears in mind that in its policy on the Palestine question, and the Middle East conflict, the United States gives priority to the security of Israel. After that come other issues such as U.S. interests and then, perhaps, the Middle East problem or crisis and human rights, not the national rights of the Palestinian people.

The fact that a new president is taking over in the White House may mean some changes. We do not know whether such changes would be in the interest of the Palestine cause or against it. We can predict, however, that the [new] attitudes cannot possibly be much different from the previous U.S. policies. Every new U.S. president makes numerous promises. We are aware of the pledges made by President-elect Ronald Reagan. He said that the PLO did not represent the Palestinian people and that it was a terrorist organization. He promised to support and aid Israel and back it with all U.S. power. Nevertheless we say that the U.S. attitudes stem from its interests. It has interests in the Middle East. The United States must, one way or another, feel that these interests may be lost. The Arab states must bring pressure to bear on it. We said this on many occasions but, regrettably, the Arab states that are friendly to the United States feel that their need for U.S. protection is greater than their ability to put pressure on the United States. One of the reasons for this is the lack of strong Arab solidarity to support these states and make them able to exert such pressures.

As we can see, Arab division is one of the factors which encourages the U.S. administration not to recognize and not to give priority to the Palestine question and the Middle East crisis, and which makes it pay no attention to meeting some Arab demands. The Arab power must not only be military, it must be military, economic, and political in order to achieve the desired success in the Middle East.

Therefore, we must work, in coordination with our friends, to stand up and confront the U.S. policy until it abandons its flagrant antagonism to the Palestinian people and their national aspirations.

We know that our main enemy is Israel. No future government will take into consideration the need for the fulfilment of Palestinian objectives. Every Israeli Government tries in every way through its own style to secure more expansion for Israel. There is no doubt that the tactics of the Labor Party are different from the Likud. Begin is frank and clear and he does not hide his objectives. On the contrary, he declares his objectives on all occasions. However, it was the Labor Party which had formed the successive cabinets since the inception of Israel. It waged several wars--four wars. In its statements it concealed some of its aggressive intentions and presented them in a form acceptable to the European states, or at least to the United States, in order to be able to carry out its policy. It is a fact, however, that Begin's aggressive policy has isolated Israel completely, contributed to U.S. isolation as a result of which U.S. support for such an aggressive policy which does not serve peace, but increases tension in the area and makes all the Arab people stand against these interests and fight this aggressive policy.

[Question] I recall that when we used to work in the popular organization department 11 years ago, when you were the head of that department, you used to preach patience and perseverance and initiative. Patience and perseverance have undoubtedly become characteristics distinguishing the leaders of Palestinian diplomacy. However, it appears that patience and perseverance have not brought some Europeans much closer to the Palestinian position. Continuous efforts with regard to the Europeans have not yet led to satisfactory results. In brief, how far have we gotten with the Europeans and to what extent can we say they have become closer to us, to our programs or the minimum of our political demands?

[Answer] We must remember that not all the European states are friendly states--some are our friends, some are not. We must not expect too much from the European position. However, we talk about the European position as being the last in the groups of nations which still has not supported all the national rights of the Palestinian people. The African states support all the Palestinian people's national rights. The socialist states support and recognize the PLO and support all the Palestinian people's national rights. The nonaligned states support all the national rights of the Palestinian people. We are a full member in the nonaligned movement. What remains is the European states. We are trying to develop the attitudes of these states. This is happening slowly because of the link between the European states--especially the EC states--and the United States and because of the pressures the United States put on these states on various occasions so as not to adopt attitudes harmful to the Zionist entity. We, in fact, have managed to change these attitudes. We now have offices in many of these states. There are states who recognize our national rights, or parts of these rights. Spain's position is well advance in comparison to other European states. There is also Malta and France, who also ahead of other European states. There is Austria, which recognizes the PLO, and considers that it has an embassy.

It also recognizes the Palestinian people's right to an independent Palestinian state. There are also the states which acknowledge the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, such as Britain, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Belgium. Undoubtedly the Scandinavian countries, especially Sweden and Finland, support these rights.

Attitudes just do not develop automatically. Pressures must be exerted and Europe must come to feel that its basic interests are linked to the Middle East, to the Arab states and to the security of the Middle East and the Arab states on the Mediterranean. Europe must feel that it has a duty to contribute to a Middle East solution, and also to put pressure on the United States, which is considered the main factor in the support of Israeli policy and in the encouragement of Israel to continue to occupy Arab territory.

[Question] Brother Abu al-Lutf, permit me to ask about the Palestine National Council. Are there plans to convene it soon and what topics will it tackle? A great deal is being said about not convening the council.

[Answer] The National Council is a necessity and it must convene as soon as possible. However, convening the council requires basic prerequisites such as an agreement on the proposed programs for political action and on the leaderships which may participate in the Executive Committee and the Central Council. The National Council is bound to discuss future Palestinian action.

The aim of the National Council is, undoubtedly, to consolidate and develop national unity. There must be prior agreement among the influential Palestinian forces in the council, which form the [Executive] Committee before the council convenes. It is not a question of 1 or 2 months. The main purpose is that the council should produce decisive results in relation to national unity and to political expectations and attitudes, which the council could adopt for the coming period. God willing, the council will meet soon, especially now that many Arab and other conferences have been held and adopted resolutions which the council must discuss and adopt a position on.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES MAYOR ASH-SHAK'AH IN DAMASCUS

NC310714 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received in Damascus yesterday Brother Bassam ash-Shak'ah, the mayor of Nabulus, who is visiting Syria at the official invitation of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Brother Abu 'Ammar congratulated Brother ash-Shak'ah on his recovery from his injuries and reviewed with him the conditions of our people in the occupied homeland, praising the heroic steadfastness of our people against the Israeli oppression and their rallying around their legitimate leadership, which is the PLO.

Brother ash-Shak'ah affirmed that the masses of the occupied homeland will continue to offer sacrifices until the legitimate objectives of our Palestinian people are achieved, represented in the withdrawal of the occupiers from their homeland and the establishment of a national and independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

AFGHAN LEADERS RECEIVE AS-SADAT GIFT OF WEAPONS

NC011949 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 Jan (MENA)--A ceremony was held this evening to mark the presentation of President Anwar as-Sadat's gift to the leaders of the Afghan struggle. The gift consisted of machineguns and pistols produced by [Egyptian] military factories. The ceremony was presented to the Afghan leaders by Sayyid Nawfal, secretary general of the League [of Arab and Islamic Peoples'] Constituent Assembly.

'ALI REACTS TO SHAMIR AUTONOMY TALKS STATEMENTS

NC301621 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 30 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has reaffirmed that if the autonomy negotiations have stumbled or are progressing slower than necessary, then this is due to Israel's stands which were the reason for the stumbling of the negotiations several times.

'Ali made a statement today in which he rebuffed the statement by Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir that Egypt fears the signing of an agreement granting autonomy to the Palestinians and wants instead the establishment of a national homeland for them.

In his statement, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister reviewed some facts which show that Israel is responsible for the lack of progress in the autonomy discussions. He said: For the last 18 months Israel and its present government have not adopted any measures which would encourage the Palestinians to participate in the full autonomy. On the contrary, the situation in the West Bank and Gaza sector has escalated in a regrettable manner. Israel is thus disregarding international law and the fourth Geneva convention despite the fact that Egypt raised this issue at all the meetings which took place in the past 18 months.

'Ali explained that a most vital point is the fact that in the past 18 months we have achieved nothing regarding the full autonomy for the Palestinians and only realized very little of what we should have realized for two reasons. The first reason is Israel's intransigence. The second is the fact that Israel does not read the Camp David [agreements] the same way when they were signed but seeks in its interpretation to divest some of the main points in the Camp David of their true concept.

Concerning the establishment of a national homeland for the Palestinians, 'Ali said: The Camp David agreements emphasize placing the Palestinians at the threshold of self-determination. We have decided not to speak in the name of the Palestinians because they alone have the right to decide what they want regarding the establishment of an independent national homeland or of a homeland in the form of a federal or confederal union with Jordan.

'Ali went on: On this basis, if the negotiations have stumbled or are proceeding slower than necessary, then this is due to Israel's stands which were already the reason for the stumbling of the negotiations several times. 'Ali gave examples citing the decision on Jerusalem, constant insistence on building the settlements, and the inhuman treatment of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza sector represented in the expulsion of the mayors, banning of political meetings, stripping the mayors of their powers and various pressures by the military government. He added: I will even go further and say that Israel has not yet released the political prisoners in Sinai despite the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the normalization of the relations. Moreover, it has not yet handed over the Egyptian As-Sultan Monastery [in old Jerusalem] to the Egyptian priests. This is despite our repeated demands regarding these two issues which enter into the course of the normalization of the relations between the two countries.

In conclusion, 'Ali said: This shows to what extent the Israeli Government has gone in its intransigence, its failure to prepare for the implementation of the full autonomy and its destruction of houses, an absolutely inhuman action.

CHAIRMAN OF U.S. JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF DEPARTS

NC311341 Cairo MENA in English 1315 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA)--Chairman of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff General David Jones left here at noon today for home after a six-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces Lieutenant-General 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghaz-lah. The U.S. chief of staff was seen off at the airport by General Abu Ghaz-lah and commanders of the main branches of the armed forces. The American guest had visited the second and third field armies.

AS-SADAT SENDS CABLE TO POPE JOHN PAUL II

NC011512 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 1 Jan 81

["Text" of cable from President as-Sadat to Pope John Paul II in reply to latter's new year's message to As-Sadat.]

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jan (MENA)--His Holiness Pope John Paul II: On the 14th anniversary of world peace day, I was pleased to receive your sincere message for peace and freedom in the world, particularly at this time when the ghost of wars with its suffering is increasing and casting its shadow over various parts of the world.

On behalf of the noble Egyptian people, who began their march toward peace, freedom and civilization 7,000 years ago and who have worked hard to consolidate the ties of friendship, respect and tolerance among all peoples and government, it pleases me to join you in your appeal for peace and freedom and your effort to remove mankind's suffering.

It is freedom that mankind needs at this historic juncture in which the people's freedom is being trampled by the force of oppression. Peace based on true freedom is undoubtedly the hoped-for solution that mankind needs to protect future generations from destruction, suffering, backwardness and poverty.

Our people are fully aware of their responsibility which they are shouldering with patience and courage--for the sake of mankind's welfare, for a comprehensive and just peace, and for a true freedom that protects the people's rights from the oppressors' aggression and the calamities of wars.

I am aware that Your Holiness is following Egypt's indefatigable efforts to liberate all Arab territories occupied in 1967, including the holy city of Jerusalem, the center of the three heavenly religions; restore the Palestinian people's freedom so that they may determine their future by themselves; and establish firm bases for peace and freedom in this part of the world.

On the occasion of world peace day, allow me, Your Holiness, to join you in your appeal to all states and peoples to earnestly work for peace and for the freedom of mankind at large and of every human being without discrimination.

While sending my best regards, please accept my sincerest wishes for Your Holiness.

AS-SADAT SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO CASTRO

NC011234 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1222 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jan (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent a cable of contratulations to Dr Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, on the occasion of the revolution anniversary. The cable reads: On the occasion of your celebration of the revolution anniversary, it pleases to send you on my behalf and on behalf of the Egyptian people sincerest congratulations, wishing you good health and happiness and progress and prosperity for the friendly Cuban people.

TEXT OF AS-SADAT TELEVISION INTERVIEW ON BIRTHDAY

NC251140 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0807 GMT 25 Dec 80

["Text" of prerelease of President as-Sadat's interview with Arab television on his birthday]

[Text] Cairo, 25 Dec (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has stated that during 1981 he will devote his time to radically solving the basic daily problems of citizens, particularly food security, taxation justice, and relations among the Egyptian family members.

President as-Sadat said that he will keep his promise to enable every boy and girl to have a house or a small apartment of their own in the future.

In his annual interview, which will be broadcast on television tonight, President as-Sadat touched on Egypt's stance on the cause of the Afghan people. He affirmed that Egypt will continue to support this people's struggle against the Soviet invasion of their territory.

He also announced that he will send more arms to the Afghan Rebels.

President as-Sadat called on the Egyptian people to donate whatever clothing and blankets they can donate to the struggling Afghan people, who have been expelled from their country by the Soviet invaders.

He also emphasized that Egypt will continue to assume its Islamic responsibility throughout history.

The text of President as-Sadat's interview with the Arab television on the anniversary of his birthday follows:

Question: Happy birthday, Your Excellency.

Answer: Thank you.

Question: Egypt has been under your leadership for 10 years now, how would you assess these 10 years?

Answer: In fact, every time we meet on the occasion of my birthday, I find it an occasion to look back a little. On this anniversary, I try to look back not only 10 years but to my entire life. Why? Because man can reach many conclusions and most importantly one can find himself amid the welter of the events that are taking place and responsibilities. I believe that one needs this and must have the chance to look back to years of his life that have elapsed to conclude something. Time is flying fast and another year has elapsed. I can remember our interview here last year. A month or two before that, events were occuring. I want to talk about 10 years, but my talks might touch on 111 years, and not only 10 years. Let us add 101 years because I believe these years are closely connected.

When I attended the third opening of the Suez Canal, [on 16 Dec] the Japanese foreign minister was with me. We met on the second day. We went to inaugurate two giant dredgers that were made in Japan. While we sat down he asked if I remembered that the Japanese began their renaissance with us. He said we began our renaissance in 1879 and they with us. We always remember this date. I already mentioned this in one of my speeches to our people. I remember this very well. Do you see the strange contradiction? Japan began its renaissance in 1879 and in 1941 it reached the point of standing up against the greatest industrial power at that time, namely the United States, in Pearl Harbor. The Japanese made an aircraft carrier and aircraft.

There was a kind of aircraft called Zero that we heard about just as we heard about the German planes Schmitt [Messerschmitt] and Junker and all this stuff during World War II. The Japanese began their renaissance with us and it is mentioned in their history books. What happened to us? In 1879, we upheld the constitution as our principle as every strong and honest nation begins its life. A nation's honest and strong life always begins with independence both at the national and individual level. A man's strong and honest life begins when he announces his independence. This is a long subject that I want to teach my sons. I talked about it to the teachers and on how to raise and build the Egyptian man from within so that he can face any situation.

I now go back to 1879. As a result of the people's genuine desire we won a completely democratic constitution. This was in the late period of Isma'il's reign and after the opening of the Suez Canal. The foreigners then intervened in Egypt's affairs. To be more specific, the British and French ambassadors intervened. This is what Isma'il wrought upon Egypt when he tried to change it in 1941, but not in content, into a European country.

The year 1879 witnessed the resurgence of the Japanese. We started our resurgence 3 years later; that is, in 1882. At that time the British occupation came about. Japan started its renaissance together with us in 1879 [as received]; but as we can see now, Japan is one of the world's major powers. They have developed modern electronic technology, which outstrips that of Europe and America in transistor electronics. They basically invented everything related to that and manufactured it as well. They are still manufacturing it despite the fact that, after World War II, they had nothing left. This is what the Japanese Foreign minister told me, that they started from scratch. But it only took them a very short time because the bases for the renaissance of Japan and its science were there. The war finished them just as it had finished the Germans; and they started from scratch. According to them they started from scratch. As a matter of fact though, they did not start from scratch. After the war, Germany did not have one single building left intact. Raids, a thousand planes strong, were a common occurrence because they wanted to teach Germany a lesson. However, 10 years after the war Germany was standing on its feet. Today Germany is, economically, the strongest country in the world. The same holds true for Japan.

Question: Japan has no raw materials.

Answer: This is a miracle. Despite the fact that Japan has no raw materials it has succeeded in standing at a par with the most magnificent technology in our times: Nay, it has even outstripped Europe and America in electronic technology, for example. I am pondering what would have happened, what our situation would have been like, if the past 110 or 111 years--including the 10 years of my tenure from 1970-1980--did not go astray. It is certain that if the years since the start of our renaissance--which coincided with Japan's 1879--were not interrupted first by the British occupation and then by the Egyptian rulers' regimes which, according to them, brought Western democracy after the year 1923, [sentence as received]. Britain gave us deficient independence: It fooled the [Egyptian] leaders with this independence and made a mockery of them. Had the 1919 revolution not ended up as it did [words indistinct]. The British occupation cut off all opportunities and kept Egypt an enfeebled country. They even taught us at the time that Egypt is a rural country unfit to be an industrial state. These things were written in the books which my generation read: namely, that Egypt will be a depot for raw materials to after the deficient independence in 1923, the leaders--or those who called themselves leaders or the parties which were then established--should have concentrated their efforts on the people's goals in 1919: That was, to rid the country of the foreign occupation and [to draw up] the constitution. This would have brought about the beginning of the renaissance or the epoch of real independence.

This period, and the one that preceded it, showed the true mettle of our people. Our people are not as the leaders before 1923 tried to depict them, and they are not what foreigners were trying to portray. More than 180 years ago, at the beginning of the 19th century, our people took the decision to oust the ruler Khurshid, who had been appointed by the sublime porte. Why? Because this particular ruler, who was appointed by the sublime porte, or the Turkish caliph at the time, abused his power and imposed taxes on the Egyptians. This led to an Egyptian uprising despite the fact that Khurshid made concessions to this revolution. Foremost among these concessions was that no taxes would be imposed without the people's consent. This happened at the beginning of the 19th century. To be more specific, during the first 15 years of the 19th century.

Despite Khurshid's concession, our people refused to let him remain in power even though he had been appointed by the sublime porte. They ousted Khurshid and elected Muhammad 'Ali, who was an Albanian officer--as we all know--to replace Khurshid as a ruler. The sublime porte--or the caliph in Istanbul--was forced to send his resolution confirming the people's agreement to Muhammad 'Ali's succession in place of Khurshid. However, as we all know, Muhammad 'Ali's successors and sons abused their power to such a degree that the British occupation relied--first and foremost--on Khedive Tawfiq in 1882. Tawfiq asked the British to allow him to remain on his throne.

After that this family, regrettably, had a history of association with the colonialists, who removed Khedive 'Abbas Hilmi during World War I and appointed Sultan Husayn Kamil. When Husayn Kamil died, they brought in King Fu'ad. Every time a ruler was appointed it was by a British decision. All this is written in the history books. This was the course of the family afterwards.

What I want to say is that we could have begun our renaissance not only 110 years ago but 180 years ago. The Egyptian people's will existed, and they ousted the ruler and appointed Muhammad. They appointed another ruler. This principle does not mean that Muhammad 'Ali [sentence incomplete]. I am saying this in order to show that Muhammad 'Ali was desired by the people. If the people had then been able to appoint a ruler from among themselves they would have done so. But the stage of conflicts at the time made them--instead of appointing an Egyptian ruler--remove the ruler appointed by the sublime porte and appoint another. This also could have been a starting point. I could even say a natural starting point. Muhammad 'Ali is to be tributed for many good points, primarily industry. We achieved heavy industry. The manufacture of guns is considered to be the pinnacle of industry; Muhammad 'Ali built various factories and manufactured guns and ships. But he, like any autocratic ruler, abolished land ownership, redistributed it and began to achieve his dreams and ambitions by dragging Egypt into wars that reached Istanbul.

In 1840 they appointed him to rule only Egypt after he occupied greater Syria, reached Istanbul and threatened the sublime porte and the caliph. In 1840, all the European countries checked him at that point because he was emerging as a new power. Muhammad 'Ali's mistake was that he ruled as a dictator and autocrat and did not carry out what he pledged to the people, who elected him and forced the caliph or the sublime porte to oust its appointee (Khurshid) and appoint him.

The background of my past 10 years in office was the events that occurred from the turn of the 19th century or the start of the renaissance in 1879. The renaissance started then and should have continued, as happened in Japan. We see where Japan has reached. Where is Japan today? I maintain that the past 10 years were a correction of the past 111 years, or the 101 years before the past 10 years.

Question: Your Excellency, this is a new assessment.

Answer: In fact, I cannot live through events or look to the future without knowing the past because all our history is one of continual links. During the past 10 years, the mistakes made in 101 years--the era that started in 1879 when Egypt obtained a complete constitution and full parliamentary life--were corrected. That was the beginning or the starting point for rebuilding. I say this because nations can only build a strong and honest life after independence.

We obtained [the constitution] in 1879, but it was abolished during the British occupation.

Britain and the khedive ruled Egypt and a stage began where, instead of going ahead and building, we continued to go backward. Even the industry and schools which Muhammad 'Ali built were abolished by his sons and successors, who abused and abolished everything. Isma'il came to power and brought us debts, foreign influence and the credit fund. The credit fund grew bigger because he brought in the British who never forgot their dream of the (Frazer) campaign of the last few years of the 18th century and the turn of the 19th century. They first came and tried to occupy Egypt. Then the (Frazer) campaign followed when the people appointed Muhammad 'Ali. The (Frazer) campaign was launched to occupy Egypt, but when it failed the British dealt a strike at Rash'd.

Afterward they also bombarded the outskirts of Alexandria and then they were forced to withdraw. They did not forget this from 1803 and 1804 until 1882, when they came and occupied Egypt. However, this time the ruler of the country, Kedive Tawfiq, was their agent. He summoned them and made things easier for them. Some Egyptian notables encouraged the khedive to accept British help. These notables also took part in the denunciation of 'Urabi [19th century Egyptian nationalist leader] in order to strike at the 'Urbai movement and revolution, whose essence was the same as the essence of the 1919 revolution, the July [23 July 1852] revolution and the May [1971] revolution.

I am sorry if I'm going back, but I want to connect things, we will remain shallow if we look at things that happened only 10 or 15 years ago, or after 1923. Let us look at things that happened since 101 years ago.

In 10 years I corrected things in order to compensate ourselves for all that we lost in 101 years. We acquired the constitution in 1879 and we started a strong and honorable life--that is, independence. 3 years later, everything came to an end and we entered into a whirlpool. The things that remained were the regime of Khedive Tawfiq, the British occupation and martial law during World War I. The 1879 parliament became a rubber stamp; the constitution was abolished. What was formed afterward was a rubber stamp called the legislative assembly; it had neither power nor value. The British military governor in Egypt imposed martial law on 2 November 1914. The British, the king and the parties exploited this martial law during various periods until, in 1980, I abolished it for good.

In 10 years we corrected what happened in 101 years or, to be precise, what happened in 181 years; that is, since the time 'Umar Makram, the Egyptians, Shaykh ash-Sharqawi and Shaykh as-Sadat dismissed the ruler appointed by Al-Wali [sultan of Turkey] and with the support of the Egyptian people imposed another ruler. This must be the starting point for this people, who lost this period. We lost 110 or 111 years. Well, how did the past 10 years correct all this? I will not be bragging if I say that in each year of these 10 years there was a serios decision. It is true that in each year there was a serious decision. We thus corrected the mistakes of 180 or 181 years. If we want a shorter period, then it will be 111 years; that is if we leave the first part of the 19th century and start from the second part, then it will be 111 years.

How? Let us start with a sound beginning. As I have said, the honorable life of a nation or a people only starts when this nation declares its independence and when this independence is real and this nation is governed by its sons and not by a foreign ruler, a foreign occupation or foreign influence.

Let us deal with the 111 years instead of the 181 years because it all boils down to the same thing. There was a need to correct what went wrong in 111 years. There was a need for the people to take the road that will lead them to the peak of construction, the peak of prosperity and the peak of prestige in this world in view of Egypt's Islamic and Arab responsibilities.

The first decision in the past 10 years to correct all this was made in 1970. It aimed at liberating the Egyptian people's will and at eliminating fear. I may have mentioned this before. 'Ali ibn Abu Talib [cousin of Prophet Muhammad] said: If fear was a man, I would have killed him. I also say that if fear was a man, I would have killed him. Fear has a destructive effect on a people. I started my life believing in dictatorship. However, now I say that a century of mistakes under a democratic regime is better than an hour of mistakes under a dictatorial regime. There is a process of fear [under a dictatorial regime] that suppresses the soul. It was necessary to liberate the Egyptian people from fear. To be fair, fear was not caused by the 23 July revolution, or by the custodianship or by the measures that were taken in the late 60's until I took office. Fear existed before this. The king, the British and the party leaders cooperated in creating this fear, as well as the rulers of Egypt who were Egyptians but who were given ranks and thus believed that they were supreme to the Egyptian people just because they were given the title of a pasha by a khedive or a governor.

The history of the rank of pasha is also important for us to remember. According to the Ottoman rule, these ranks were the jurisdiction of the sublime porte. But when the British occupied Egypt, they ousted 'Abbas Hilmi in 1914 when World War I broke out. They made Husayn Kamil a sultan. This was one of the things they did for him to make him popular. Our people rejected the occupation and the foreign rule represented in the khedive, Husayn Kamil, and Sultan Husayn and the monarchies of Fu'ad and Faruq who succeeded them. Our people rejected all of this and, primarily, the English colonialists. The people, like 'Urabi basically rejected any nondemocratic nonconstitutional rule.

In order to make Husayn Kamil popular the British told him in 1914 to give the ranks and to forget all about the sublime porte because its territories were being occupied. Husayn Kamil then began to grant ranks to various figures in order to make him popular. He tried to curry their favor so that they would create a base for him among the Egyptian people. Since this is the history of ranks, no pasha has a right now to boast that he had been a pasha. This is because as I said the age of civilization or aristocracy in this country is the peasant. He is Egypt and the origin of the world, the cultured, the soldier and life in Egypt. This is aristocracy and not the pashas whose story began with letters from the English in 1914 who sought the removal of 'Abbas Hilmi and the appointment of Husayn Kamil. These letters are written in the works of 'Abd ar-Ruhman ar-Rafi'i. It is ridiculous that they would write to one of these people telling him that we, Britain, remove you; and then to another, we appoint you. The high commissioner or the commander of the military forces used to send these letters. Even the regime of the throne and its successors is mentioned in the history books as having been officially decided by Britain. Britain would decide and King Fu'ad would say yes.

Since this is the state of King Fu'ad, what is the state of the pashas who believe that this rank is a great honor? It is time for them to be ashamed of themselves because this is the history of the ranks and the pashas. These ranks were made so that the people would accept [the British occupation] and enable the English to establish a colonialist authority and so that the imposed and appointed khedive could use the pashas to make the English popular.

The British succeeded to some extent because the pashas competed to remain pashas in the service of the khedive and the Britiah colonialists. Thus the pashas, given their history, have no right at all to boast about this rank, but rather to withdraw in shame. Many wise men discarded this rank aware that it is gone, once and for all.

I got back to where I digressed, the first decision I had to make was to correct the mistakes made in the 181 years and to move on from a sound beginning. A people's honest and strong life can conquer power. There were certain factors which necessitated the revolution. Every revolution in the world has a right to take measures to protect itself. This happened in the French revolution when it faced a setback. Our revolution did not face a setback. The 15 May revolution was launched to rectify the course of the 23 July revolution from within and by the people. It was necessary to do some purges. That is why I made the decision cancelling all the special measures in the 2 months I ruled in 1970. In 1971, we liquidated the centers of power.

I consider 1971 a very vital and decisive year in our history as well as an historical turning point at which we must pause and ponder. Many events took place in 1971 which had the sole aim of entrenching the Egyptian people's will and laying a sound foundation for the new structure. This should have (?started) early in the 18th century [as received] from 1801-1805, or in 1879, or at least after the 1919 revolution. Thus we would have won the time from 1919 to 1970 instead of having to add this period to past periods. But the conclusion I want to draw is that we must start history from 1971.

What happened in 1971? On 4 February, 1971, I said that I was ready to conclude a peace agreement with Israel. Some 22 years elapsed since the Palestine question arose during which no Arab leader or president dared to mention the word peace with Israel, never. I told you the story that Golda Me'ir was then prime minister. She told the United States that no Arab president or leader could declare that he was ready to conclude a peace agreement with Israel. I, however, said on 4 February, 1971 that I was prepared to conclude a peace agreement with Israel on the following conditions: that Israel withdraw from the Suez Canal to the [Sinai] passes as a first stage and that Gunnar Jarring, the UN secretary general envoy, draft a timetable for Israeli withdrawal; then a peace agreement would be signed with Israel. This statement, which was made on 4 February, 1971, must be considered to be the start of the awakening of the Arab consciousness regarding the problem of Arab-Israeli conflict. Had I continued with [as before the peace initiative] or followed what those who met in Baghdad, Tunis or Amman wanted, or taken their view, this problem would not have been solved, not even in the coming 300 or 500 years. Not only this, but a door would have been open for further Israeli expansion. All of this took place in 1971.

Regarding the first Arab question; namely, the Arab-Israeli conflict that was 22 years old. This year must also be considered a basic year and the beginning of a new history. In May, 1971, 3-4 months after February--March, April and May, exactly after 3 months--the will of the people that removed Khurshid and brought about the constitution of 1879, the renaissance should have begin in Egypt as it began in Japan [as received]. The people's wil should have had the upper hand in the sense that all the hindrances and all those who wanted to strike at the people's will should have been removed, so that the people's will would be established. This was the essence of the 15 May adtion.

The centers of power were backed by the Soviet Union but they did not have any roots here in Egypt--they were nothing. They wanted to rule Egypt but they did not have any support, except from the Soviet Union. They had no popular base whatsoever. It was necessary to remove them from our way. This was not enough. In order to defeat fear completely, the detention camps were closed forever. All this happened.

Man was not safe in his home: there were listening devices; the telephones were tapped; there were recorded tapes. I also abolished all this. Just as 1971 witnessed the 4 February initiative on the Arab level, it also witnessed the elimination and isolation of the centers of power forever so there would be no custodianship of this country which, thereafter, started its honorable and independent life with its own will and with the will of its ruler.

At the same time, it was necessary to close the detention camps in order to eliminate fear completely. To be fair, the detention camps existed during the rule of the khedives and the kings. They also existed during the rule of the party leaders. I was a witness to this. Why? I was arrested during World War II on orders of the British authorities. I lived in the detention camp and I saw that when the Wafd Party was in power, the Sa'dists and the Young Egypt [two Egyptian parties] members were with me in prison.

When the Wafd Party was dismissed from power in 1944 I remained in prison. The Sa'dists, Al-Kutlah, Al-Ahrar and Young Egypt members left prison and the Wafdists entered it. When a party used to come to power it used to put its foes in prison. I remained in prison during the two eras because when I submitted an application for my release, they told me that I was arrested on orders of the British authorities and they could not do anything for me except if Britian approved my release. More simply, they told me that I had to remain in prison until the war was over. So I remained in prison until martial law was abolished in September 1945, that is some months after the end of the war.

To be fair, the detention camps were not introduced by the 23 July revolution, as those who are trying to falsify history are claiming. The detention camps existed before that. You all remember that during World War II 'Ali Mahir was arrested. First, they put him under house arrest at his farm. He left his farm for Cairo and arrived at the parliament, hiding in the trunk of a car. He knew that the British authorities and the government had given orders for his arrest. So to avoid being arrested he thought that if he could reach Parliament and sit inside no one could arrest him. So he hid in the trunk of a car and entered the Parliament. Nevertheless, they arrested him. [several words indistinct].

The detention camps were not introduced by the 23 July revolution, as those who are falsifying history are alleging. The detention camps existed during the rule of the parties. Martial law used to be imposed and then lifted, but the detention camps were always there.

From May 1971, when the era of renaissance and real construction and independence began, until today, no one can claim [sentence incomplete]. I abolished the martial law in 1980. No one can claim that one person was detained from May 1970 to May 1980, when I abolished martial law forever. Martial law was in force, but no one was detained. I closed the detention camps forever in order to eliminate fear and uphold the people's will.

In 1971, there were not only the 4 February initiative, the elimination of the centers of power and the closure of the detention camps forever--all this for the sake of an honorable life for an independent Egypt--but there was another important thing, which was [the introduction of] the constitution. Egypt has fought for the sake of such a constitution for 111 years, or for 181 years, when 'Umar Makram, Ash-Sharqawi and Shaykh as-Sadat stood up and dismissed [the foreign ruler of Egypt] and said that no tax could be imposed without the people's consent. After 70 or 80 years, we acquired a constitution in 1879. But, as I said, the British occupation came and abolished it 3 years later.

In 1971, we introduced the constitution for which 'Umar Makram, Ash-Sharqawi and [Shaykh] As-Sadat fought and for the sake of which the 'Urabi revolution was staged at the end of the 7th decade of the 18th century. We acquired a constitution in 1879, but the British occupation abolished it 3 years later. Mustafa Kamil and Muhammad Farid then struggled for the restoration of this constitution inside and outside Egypt. This 1919 revolution was staged as a result of the struggle of Mustafa Kamil and Muhammad Farid.

The 1919 revolution was led by Sa'd Zaghlul. But, to be fair, it was not an impromptu revolution. The 1919 revolution was the result of a long history of suffering following the British occupation in 1882. It was a horrible struggle between the entire Egyptian people and the British imperialist aimed at ousting the imperialists and gaining independence. This struggle for independence began in 1879. To be fair, Mustafa Kamil and Muhammad Farid prepared and paved the way for the 1919 revolution. It was led by Sa'd Zaghlul when he, Ash-Sah'rawi and 'Abd al-'Aziz Fahmi went to the British commissioner after the end of the World War I in order to demand Egypt's right to independence. However, the revolution was staged because there was long preparation for it since the British occupation in 1882.

Those who laid the foundation of the 1919 revolution were Mustafa Kamil, Muhammad Farid and the National Party. Sa'd Zaghlul led the country after the 1919 revolution. However, the 1919 revolution was made by the people led by Mustafa Kamil and Muhammad Farid.

Question: In other words, its roots began at the end of the 19th century.

Answer: From the time of the British occupation, and intensified after the Dinshaway incident, in the first 10 years of the 20th century, when Mustafa Kamil conducted his spledid struggle in Europe and let the world know that there is a village called Dinshaway in which the British committed such and such. As a result of his struggle, Britain was forced to dismiss Kromer, who ruled Egypt for more than 20 years, and who was the power behind the khedive, the pashas, the parties and everything else. When Mustafa Kamil died, Muhammad Farid continued the struggle until the people carried out their revolution in 1919 under the leadership of Sa'd Zaghlul.

We come to the basic year of 1971. Makram, Ash-Sharqawi and Shaykh as-Sadat struggled for a constitution in the beginning of the 19th century. The 'Urabi revolution took place to demand a constitution. The revolutions of 1919 and 23 July 1952 took place over the demand for a constitution. The 6th principle in the 23 July revolution regarding a sound democratic life was not implemented. In the basic year 1971 I achieved this and corrected our history since the time of Makram to 'Urabi Mustafa Kamil, Muhammad Farid, Sa'd and Jamab 'Abd an'Nasir. I corrected it, and established a constitution for Egypt in September 1971, which is the basic year.

Question: The importance of historical details, Your Excellency--I am sorry to have interrupted Your Excellency--but there is one question which must be asked: Why doesn't contemporary history include these facts, since the people are still alive and no one can distort anything? Why not dot the i's from the beginning of the British occupation, for example, so that everyone can take his role?

Answer: This is what I am calling for. I say that this must be divided into doses, as I said in my speech on teachers' day. One dose given in primary school, another in the preparatory school, another in the secondary and another in the university. There is no country in the world that does not teach its children its history. Our children who study in French schools are taught French history, and our children who study in British school are taught British history. We do not teach our history in stages. We must do that so no one can deceive us again. The renaissance era in Egypt began in 1971.

Some may think that what I am saying is new. This exists in the history books and the teachers know it. But a connection must be made. The primary problem of the people, the will of the people, the fear, the detention camps have ended. The constitution entrenched the struggle of the people from the beginning of the 19th century, or at the end of the 18th century. The hope of 'Umar Makram, Ash-Sharqawi, and [Shaykh] as-Sadat was achieved in September 1971. The constitution exists since September 1971 and God willing will exist forever. We all know what happened to the constitution in the past, especially during the days of King Fu'ad and King Faruq. Of course, before King Fu'ad and King Faruq there was no constitution. There was a legislative assembly and much clowning. It was just a front with no real power.

Question: Can we say that 1971 was the year in which the achievement of the humanization of man began, as your excellency has put it?

Answer: 1971 was the basic year in which the renaissance era in Egypt began. Just like Japan began in 1879 to achieve independence, popular will, and a full dignified life, we began this in 1971. The year 1971 was not only the basic year for achieving all this, it was also the basic year for a very important process. It was an eventful year.

After we had rid ourselves of the centers of power in May [1971] a communist revolution occurred in the Sudan and the Soviet Union asked us to recognize it. I told the Soviet Union: I regret. I will not allow this and no communist state will ever arive on our border.

Indeed, I told them this, despite the fact that they had us by the throat at the time because of the [Soviet] arms [supplies to Egypt]. However, I said this with the will of Egypt and on the basis of Egypt's free structure and the will of its people. When I said this I was not expressing my position only, but was expressing the position of every Egyptian--99.9 percent of them. They are still alive and condemn communism. They do not accept it, and we do not accept that such a regime should exist in Sudan. This involved some problems at the time. They used to say that Russia rules Egypt and Egypt is in the orbit of Russia. I think that there is no practical example better than this. This took place one year before the decision to expel the Soviet experts; this was in July 1971, and the expulsion of the Soviet experts took place in July 1972. This expressed the free, noble and strong will of Egypt and manifested its full independence. This was the basic year 1971. We then go quickly through the next 10 years and see how the will of the people was liberated and how they achieved what they have fought for since the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century. The people achieved what the pashas and the parties could not achieve: We were able to achieve the sixth principle of the 23 July revolution. After the basic year of 1971 we realized our will and everything else. The Egyptian ruler is elected. I have now embarked on modern technology. Egypt will never be isolated.

After that, it was inevitable to expel the Soviet experts in 1972 in order to affirm what we said to them in 1971: that we were not communists nor did we like to have them on our borders or to be in spheres of influence. We affirmed this in 1972.

The October battle of 1973 was an assertion of the foundation year, of 4 February when I said that I was ready for peace, but one based on justice and not merely the term "peace." We asserted this in 1973 by the 1973 battle.

In 1974, [we did] as Japan had done before. You know what the Japanese renaissance had done and how it proceeded. In 1879 the Japanese first established their constitutional system. They then sent missions and students on scholarships to the United States, England and France. All of Europe at that time was bustling with resurgence. It was the age of steam, electicity, inventions and so on and so forth.

They sent students to every European country and to the United States, and the students came back home with all their knowledge to create the modern Japan we see today. As I said, Japan though without raw materials, is fiercely competing with those who have raw materials. The Japanese are ahead, not only in technology and electronics, but also in agriculture. They have the most splendid technology with regard to industry and dredgers. I told you about the story of the dredgers and the Japanese foreign minister at the Suez Canal. Japan is at the top of heavy industry.

Question: We also have educated sons and huge manpower.

Answer: I say that this has begun. At the time the state was in charge of [education]. If we [started] in 1879, [sentence left incomplete] We have many educated sons. Muhammad 'Ali sent many students with scholarships. Had we been independent and had our will, we would have been in a very different position. This is what I am saying. In the past 10 years we were correcting mistakes and compensating for them.

As I said, 1973 was an assertion of our will, independent views and peace. The 1973 war was not launched for the sake of war, but for a peace based on justice and not on fanaticism and the imposition of conditions.

In 1974 the process of building had to be completed, so I took a political decision, the so-called economic open door policy. Why? Because we went backward too much since we established the iron curtain. That is, we went backward from our already backward position. We were 100 years behind the world around us, and we went backward another 100 years because we isolated ourselves from what was taking place around us and confined our process to Soviet technology, although the Soviets are more in need of technology than we are. The military technology in the West has roots, unlike that of the Soviet Union, and it is better. All kinds of Western arms are better. True, there are Russian planes and tanks. We fought the 1973 war with Russian equipment 20 steps inferior to the Israeli equipment.

Question: Regarding the 1973 war, Your Excellency said that it broke out for the sake of peace and not war. And to assert this meaning you took the 16 October 1973 initiative when you said at the People's Assembly that we were ready to begin the peace steps.

Answer: I am saying this to explain that the initiative was not for war at all. At the peak of victory on 16 October, I said: Let us convene a conference. Withdraw from our territory and then we would sit down and sign a peace agreement. The door was open.

As I said in 1975, I had to start to build economic independence in Egypt. When we started the 23 July revolution, in the (?early) stages, our steps were excellent. The process of land redistribution and (?striking) at feudalism and all of this was vital and essential, because it was not only the feudal system in which the feudalists owned the land but also [word indistinct] and the people living on the land. Five percent of the people were masters and the other 95 percent were slaves of this 5 percent, who were the rulers and possessed all the wealth and everything. They would go to Europe every summer and buy their furniture there. Then each of them would boast that his living-room furniture was from Paris. Even a leader, who was supposed to be the leader of a popular majority party, had his furniture from Paris.

I had to begin to build because the will, independence and freedom of a nation cannot be fulfilled without economic independence. We have already achieved political [independence]. We achieved it after the 15 May revolution. To be fair, actually, [we achieved it] after the 23 July revolution because since then we have not fallen into anyone's sphere of influence. We take orders from nobody.

The eastern secretary of the [British] Embassy can no longer change the minutes of parliament. We have no pashas who humble themselves before the eastern secretary at the British Embassy. In those days when the embassy secretary gave them a coffee or tea the news would be quite something and would be in banner headlines in the newspapers. Such were our pashas who now claim to be something important--that is, some of them because many others have become sensible because they realize that our present time is quite different from the past. So I had to build.

You refer to the accumulations from the days preceding my assumption of power. As I have said, we initiated two stages. When we introduced the public sector we were at the peak of spendor. It was on the 1st of January 1957, 1 day after the 1956 battle that a decree was issued nationalizing all foreign banks and companies: they became Egypt's property. It was a most magnificent event. It also undoubtedly was vital and very essential. However, the centers of power emerged later on and they introduced socialism with a communist blend. The result was summed up in two words: we began distributing poverty. It was not a question of accumulation. Why then was the picture clear in 1974? If I do not attain economic independence I will always be at the mercy of whoever lends me money. This is simple, even to the ordinary man.

Well, then, how was I to go about achieving independence? For that purpose I issued the decision to reopen the Suez Canal. The Arabs rose against me and said: How could you reopen the Canal, this is treason.

I cannot understand how the opening of the canal could be interpreted as treason. I reopened it because I had to begin to raise funds.otherwise, how would I meet the state's expenditure and how would I finance the project and the basic supplies for the people? Would I get funds from the Arabs? What have they done for us? In 1979 some said let us starve Egypt because the way to humiliate Egypt is to starve it. A funny thing happened. This mad boy [Al-Quadhdhafi] was once talking to his colleagues and saying: As-Sadat does not agree to our terms: Well then, why don't we buy all the supplies in the shops there.

In other words they wanted to send and buy the supplies in the hands of every grocer and merchant and thus keep the food from reaching the Egyptian people and thus bring the Egyptian people under their control. It was ridiculous. Only a mind like that fellow's [Al-Qadhdhafi] would think of such a thing. He said these things to his Revolutionary Council, to members in his Revolutionary Council. Such are the Arabs.

However, I had to survive. You heard me say that before in 1973, when the October war began, our economy was below zero, which meant that I did not have enough to buy bread. In 1974 they went and asked the World Bank to declare Egypt bankrupt. Mac Namara asked me to pay $1 million to silence the U.S. Import-Export Bank, which had requested that Egypt be declared bankrupt. Mac Namara told me: Send me $1 million and I would give it to the Import-Export Bank and keep it quiet.

That was MacNamara. He is still the president of the World Bank. He will leave it this year, but he really knows Egypt's circumstances and knows me well. He is my friend. When he told me that, it took us a week to collect $1 million in Egypt and we sent it to the World Bank.

Question: Now, thank God, our budget is in billions.

Answer: I say that the accumulation [of economic problems] began with [the closure of] the Suez Canal. I blamed the Arabs who are now boasting about being Arabs. And here, some, like parrots, talk about the Arabs.

Let us look at the facts. After the reopening of the Canal, we received the first quantities of oil. And then the oil discoveries followed. No ignorant, bloodthirsty or trouble-seeking person can claim to be able to starve Egypt or feed it. We know them all. I began to take from what little was left in order to feed the people and give support for the supply goods. Then, in 1976, matters had to be straightened out. There was a treaty between me and the Soviets. From 1973 to 1976 I kept asking them to give me spare parts and they said no unless I joined the Soviet sphere of influence. They forgot that we fought our battles from the beginning of the 19th century--at the beginning of the century, in the middle of that century, the middle of the 20th century, and now we are nearing the end of the century. We have now manifested our will. I abrogated the treaty, Indira Gandhi witnessed that. I had sent and asked her: Give me spare parts, you manufacture them. Four months later she said I am sorry but the Soviet Union refused to let me sell you anything. We were not asking for a gift or for something free of charge. So I abrogated the treaty to straighten things out.

I never imagined that when I abrogated [the Soviet-Egyptian friendship treaty] that justifications would arise later for abrogating it. The Afghan affair [occurred] under the name of the treaty. In Afghanistan, they slew two presidents and brought in a third. They slew the first president Taraki suddenly when he was on his way back from Havana. They said that Taraki was ill and had entered a hospital. We then saw a new president in his place. Taraki was finished and died and no one knows to date where he was buried. They also killed the second president--all under the name of the Soviet-Afghan treaty. At present, they have a treaty with Syria and for this reason I say that Syria is the Afghanistan of the Arab nation.

Question: Now that you have mentioned Afghanistan, Mr President, why are the Islamic and Arab worlds acting only as spectators?

Answer: I was sad when I saw the [Afghan] refugees on our television. I traveled to and lived with the Afghans in their country. Their country is mountainous. The Afghans by instinct are fighters. Their country is mountainous and winter is very severe. When they brought the refugees to television and I saw them, this made me decide to hold a week for Afghanistan. It is good that you have reminded me.

Question: They said that Egypt is the only country which is helping them.

Answer: We have actually sent them arms and other aid. I ask that next week, God willing, we will do everything we can in order to help our Afghan brothers--clothes and blankets. I address my words to my sons in Port Said.

Question: In other words, this is an appeal to the citizens, Mr President.

Answer: I address an appeal to the citizens in Eygpt. Let us organize a week for Afghanistan. Anyone who can donate clothes, blankets, money and food. In particular, I address my appeal to my sons in Port Said to whom God has been generous. Bascially, I want them to buy blankets for the more than 1 million children, women and men in Afghanistan. The cold there is very severe. Let them get warmth from their brothers in Egypt. Egypt will continue to assume its Islamic responsibility despite all the vituperations of the Arabs and the other Muslims who have attacked Egypt at various conferences. I tell every Egyptian that we are not as rich as the petroleum countries which have billions and do not know how to spend them.

Question: Is this because the Arab and Islamic states are afraid of the Soviet Union, Mr President?

Answer: It was a farce to convene the [Islamic] conference in Islamabad--with 1 million refugees nearby, and Soviet tanks crushing children, mosques, women and old men--and regrettably the Muslim Arabs adopted no resolution to condemn the Soviet Union. No one condemned the Soviet Union except Egypt. However, at this time I ask those who talk about Arabs, what right Syria, Libya, Algeria, the PDRY and the Palestinians have to support Russia in Afghanistan? All these support Russia in Afghanistan. What right have these five countries, especially the Palestinians who are supposed to have a liberation cause and should have an independent will? We in Egypt [will help the Afghan people] with whatever we can. I say that I will send from my own clothes from my wardrobe for the children, women and men in Afghanistan. We must send all we can and I address my speech to every wealthy person in my country, Egypt, to donate anything--food, clothing and blankets. I announce that I will send more arms. I have sent arms and I will send more arms together with blankets, food and clothing.

Question: Mr President, at the minimum this is to defend Islam against atheism?

Answer: At the minimum we must be loyal to our religion, creed and values and to all heavenly religions and not only Islam. We must be loyal to Jamal ad-Din al-Afghani, who began the first Islamic awakening and renaissance. Through the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples, we are returning to the point from which we must begin or to the point to which Jamal al-Afghani and Imam ash-Shaykh Muhammad 'Abduh, may God have mercy on their souls, had arrived.

Question: Let us go back to the abrogation of the Egyptian-Soviet treaty.

Answer: I abrogated the treaty because we had to get rid of all of this. Now we can see that we were more than justified in abrogating the treaty. In 1977, it was necessary for me to carry out the [peace] initiative because the other alternative for me would have been to put myself at the mercy of the Arab juveniles--the 'Alawite Ba'th party in Syria, the bloodthirsty regime in Iraq and the childish regime in Libya. Are not these the ones who now want to lead the Arab nation and to decide its destiny?

Question: Mr President, we can see what is happening between them at present.

Answer: It is our right to ask this question 15 or 16 months after they broke relations with Egypt. They have become divided, dispersed and isolated, but Egypt has not become isolated. Egypt can do everything and they cannot do anything. I say it clearly and all the world can see this. Egypt now is an island of democracy. There are human rights. There is human dignity. Each person has a right in his country and shares its bounties equally. This is at a time when the petrodollars are being wasted in casinos and brothels and are going in the pockets of rulers so that they may become richer and buy real estate in Europe, the United States and all over the world. Regrettably, this situation exists in the Arab world at present. In 1977, I had no alternative [but to carry out my peace initiative]. When I launched the 1973 war, I was supposed to go and ask them and tell them that I wanted to make war and I was supposed to ask them their view. Had I done this what would have happened?

Question: The war would not have taken place, because the element of surprise was the most important element.

Answer: Regrettably, among the band of rulers there were those who are afraid, terrified, ignorant, bloody, or those who covet the wealth of their country and the wealth of others, there were only those. We came to sit. Carter addressed an invitation to me.

We must recognize this man's favor. Since I met him in February 1977 and until October 1977 we were preparing for the Geneva conference for the sake of the other parties. In the end, in October, he saw what no eye had seen. He told me: I am sorry. Don't be angry. What is going on between the Arabs is worse than what is going on between you and Israel. Find a solution yourself. From this point began the birth of my initiative which later changed the course of history not only in this area but throughout the world. Now, 3 years after my [peace] initiative, the achievemnts that have been made are almost a figment of the imagination. The saying that there will be no war after the October war has been achieved. There are sound relations with Israel. The withdrawal of Israel from 80 percent of the Sinai within 9 months has been achieved. The whole world has come to know Egypt, its noble character and its strength. The world has come to know, besides, that the reality of Islam does not resemble that portrayed by some Christian or Zionist fanatics. The world has come to know many things. We have started laying down the foundations for an overall settlement. I want to say that 3 years hence the overall settlement will be achieved, by the will of God. There is no doubt about that. The overall settlement, that is, the solution of the Palestinian problem and coexistence between us and Israel in an overall peace is imminent, by the will of God. It is only a question of time. What has been achieved over the past 3 years surpasses the imagination. The omens of what will be achieved during the next year, by God's will, are already apparent. The sound steps for an overall solution will begin, with God's will, in 1981. During 1977-1978 we made Camp David; in 1979 we signed the [peace] treaty. All of these were complementary to the peace initiative. The year 1980 witnessed the peak--which crowned the Egyptian people's honorable and independent way of life.

There was no fear while martial law existed and I existed too. But I said that martial law should be abolished for good. As a precaution against the mad boy on our western border I asked Parliament's permission to impose martial law on one governorate, which is Matruh. However, martial law has ended forever and will not return, just as the constitution has become a reality, and just as the rennaissance age which came late, Japan overtook us since 1879, and we began together. The rennaissance age has begun with the independent will, the honorable life for Egypt, the rule of Egypt by its people, andwith the expansion of the democratic base. We had one assembly--the People's Assembly with 390 members. Now a Consultative Assembly has been added, with 210 members. We have an executive authority which is working like nothing before in the history of Egypt. It is working like an integrated team. All the achievements you have seen and which have been made this year and which will be made next year were accomplished at the hands of the executive authority, the ministers. The ministerial post is no longer a prize to be run after, as was the case during the time of the pashas and the parties. No. Today it is a great problem and burden. The minister of health, poor man, had heart trouble, and many others. This is because the ministerial post envolves hard work, responsibility and achievement. We have indeed begun our honorable life.

This year, 1980, we opened the Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel. The work is considered a miracle. Before that, on 25 January 1980 the first stage of Israeli withdrawal was completed and 80 percent of Sinai was returned. Then came our assault on the problem of food security. I know that some complain about housing, but I promised my sons, I promised every boy and girl a happy home with land of their own.

Question: Does this mean that we are on our way to solving the housing problem?

Answer: Yes. What I have requested is being done now. I am against rents. I want to make every boy and girl the owner of a house, a small villa, an apartment to be happy and feel that they belong. The National Democratic Party is currently studying for the government a plan according to which a person who wants to build his own house will not pay an advance.

He will receive land and money to build. This will be nonrepayable aid from the state to him. This aid will not be repayable. None of my children can pay 1, 2, 3 or 5 thousand pounds as key money. We have the land and the new cities which are being built. Let them come. The young ones will receive aid from the state. But the able ones will have to pay for every meter. To the first I will give free of charge, while I will charge the second. This is my decision, and it will be applied next year. Solutions will be forthcoming next year not only regarding the housing problem, but on everything, including taxation. Those who have more and are able must give to those who are unable. This is what the state will regulate. Why? Because this is linked to an Islamic principle on which I am working. I have read a book by 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Sharqawi--and I hope my children will follow up what he writes, because he is an excellent Muslim researcher. I have been busy working on this principle for some time. The social security system which I asked Minister Amal 'Uthman to apply, which means insurance for every man and woman against old age, inability, sickness, and death, is part of a large scheme discussed in this book which says that the ruler or guardian is responsible for the minimum requirements of a citizen's livelihood in the state. I am not the only man in charge in this state. Before the man in charge here was the caliph. Today the state has a president, executive authority, legislative authority. Therefore, the taxation law which is coming out will be based on this philosophy.

It is my duty, as the person responsible, to provide the minimum required for the subsistence and dignity of every citizen in Egypt, including the remote deserts, villages in upper Egypt, the cities, the countryside. Every man and woman everywhere have a right, namely, that their guardian should provide the minimum necessary for them to live a dignified life and not to have to beg, be in need or be humiliated. This is an Islamic principle and it will appear in the taxation law which will tackle the matter of those who spend lavishly. I am not against people working and making a profit, but everyone who works and makes profits must build for his children, and he must build Egypt with me. He must give me what is due from him to the state and to me as his guardian so that I will be able, with him, to provide every man and woman security against fear, poverty and everything that encroaches upon the values of humanity. This will appear in the taxation and insurance law.

This is only a part of it--the second part. As I say, everyone is entitled to work and earn and make a profit, and the state will encourage and give everyone all that is necessary to push himself forward. All this is far off now. However, under the motto whoever can afford it should give me what is due to the state so that I could give it to those who cannot. We will have a sound process and the society will be like one family, which is Egypt's spirit. When Egypt loses the family spirit it will lose itself. We saw in the past, before I assumed power, how the values were lost, how conflicts replaced love and amity, and how life became materialistic. The conflict was horrible. People changed and hate increased, and so on and so forth. I restored the family spirit and I am proud to be the head of the family, not the president of the republic.

Question: In other words the laws will manifest this meaning and provide a fair distribution of wealth?

Answer: Fully, this coming year. I want them to know in Egypt that this [coming] year I will devote myself to this. I will devote myself to the shaping of the family from within and shaping the relationship between the able and the unable and reshaping relations on the basis of Egypt's values, with love not hate and with fraternity not conflict in that those who are [financially] able should sacrifice so that we will be able to give those who are in need. I want to open the door to all faculties and potentialities--Egypt has unlimited potentialities--and to the most modern technology. We emerge not from the past 10 years, but from 181 years or 111 years, to this moment. I say we have had problems, yes. I have promised prosperity by the year 1980 and my promise still stands. I was not lying when I promised that 1980 would be a prosperous year.

Question: We have come out of the bottleneck.

Answer: We have come out of it and, as I have said, I no longer fear that a spiteful, ignorant or bloodthirsty person would control Egypt under the name of Arab aid. This is finished forever. My sons who work abroad have been wonderful. My sons, the Egyptians, have been fulfilling.

What used to kill our economy was the short-term loans. We no longer need them, because our sons abroad have sent their money here, because they are reassured about their country and their future. They have provided a reserve and asset and so has the Suez Canal and so has the oil, and there will be more.

Question: Any news about oil?

Answer: Yes, there have been new discoveries. It suffices to say that while in 1975 we were importing now we are exporting [oil]. We first get what we need for our consumption and then we export. Our production is about 32 million tons. We consume about 12 million. This is not including the new discoveries.

We invoke God to bestow His blessings on us, and He has bestowed it; I can feel it. I feel it vividly in all things. God willing, our program calling [for the production of] 50 million tons [of oil] will be implemented ahead of schedule. The oil minister has discoveries [to announce to the public]. Also, the Western Desert--adjacent to Libya--has not yet told its story. We have things at our disposal which enable us to say that we will have a strong say in matters. Indeed we have things, other than those which I have mentioned, which, God willing, will enable us to meet the target of 50 million tons soon.

Then there is sufficiency in fertilizers. There are 1 million tons I have not yet opened, but I will. There are 1 million tons more of cement. Instead of the 3.5 million tons we had, we now have 4.5 million tons. Go to Hulwan and take pictures there. I will start it at 32 or 36 pounds per ton. It is an old factory, but its capacity has been increased by 1 million tons. This means 1 million new tons at 32 to 36 pounds a ton. What is important is that with 1 million tons of cement from now until 1982 I will be self-sufficient and I will begin to export cement. The same applies to fertilizers. By 1982 I will begin to export. There is also sponge iron. We have signed a contract with Japan regarding gas. The Al-Qattarah study is continuing, although if I could save a day I would, but the study still requires time. I must start it; there is no doubt about this. Extensive agriculture--2, or 10 or 20 feddans cultivated every year will not solve my problem. No, only modern technology.

On the next agriculture day or green revolution day on 29 January, bring your cameras and come with me to see how we cultivate virgin desert land with the most advanced technology of the time. We are working for extensive agriculture and mass production which will solve my food and food security problem. What I am talking about today is not merely 20,000 or 50,000 more feddans. No I am talking about mass production ["mass production" rendered in English] which you will see with the modern technology we brought to the desert of As-Salihiyah and the new Mit Abu al-Kawm which began last year. Will anyone believe that on such land we will see 1,000 cultivated feddans? It started, not last year, but rather 7 or 8 months ago.

In January on the green revolution day we will see 1,000 feddans cultivated there. I promise my sons and daughters the graduates that I will open all horizons to them to enable them to fulfill themselves, their children and the generations after them, with ownership of land, home and production. As I have said I am not putting the graduates in government departments to draw salaries and ask me for supplies. No, I will send them there to produce for themselves and for their country and to fulfill themselves.

But my sons and daughters the graduates should work like others like them in the world. There is no shame in work. Work is sacred and honorable. Enjoyable and needed work is honorable work whatever it might be. A person with a doctorate, or baccalaureate, who goes and works on 10 feddans and who works a tractor or works on animal husbandry or something like that will, I say, reap 100 times more profit than he would from a job in a government department in Cairo. In Cairo he would remain the same, but in that field he will build and have something to own. In 5 years there he will have what is worth his earnings for tens of years in the government service. In the government offices he will not be able to achieve anything. What I want to say is that here he will have an opportunity to produce and to own something. I am seeking an intensified agriculture and I want my sons, the graduates, to assume this process.

Regarding the question of price control, I promised my people that we would control the prices before the end of this year. We now control 70 percent of the prices. I was very happy to see an advertisement by a meat importer selling at the prices we fixed. We controlled the prices and put them down after a kilogram of meat had risen to 4 pounds and was heading to 6 or 7 pounds. The fixed prices are being observed and the contraveners are being imprisoned. Yesterday, I read somewhere that somebody was jailed because he slaughtered female cattle at his house. He was sentenced to 1 year in prison. There is a control indeed.

What is more important than all this are the existing food security companies. The most magnificent food security system exists in Switzerland. Austria has copied it. Our people do not know this system, but I sent my sons to Switzerland and Austria. When they came back from Switzerland and Austria, we sat together and discussed the most modern achievements of the world in this regard--getting rid of the middleman. This is what my sons, the graduates, should achieve with me. I will dispense with the middleman to let the producer and the consumer rest.

What is strange is that Switzerland, which is the richest state in the world and has the highest standard of living and can buy all its needs and food, has formed food security companies. This is what I am copying from it. I will devote my time in 1981 to this. I will devote my time to taxation justice, to one human being and to the new relations among the members of the entire Egyptian family.

I will be devoting my entire time to food security. The fishing farms I started to insure food security were not an easy thing. As 'Uthman said, the World Bank was dazzled and came to participate in them. Talk about the bank's voluntary participation in the fishing farms and other food security projects is long. Fishing farms, chicken, poultry, duck and turkey farms, intensified agriculture and the automatic slaughter house are only parts of these food projects. The food security process is very huge, and we have entered it from the right door. As I have said, we have introduced the most modern system in the world, which is followed in Switzerland and Austria. Our sons who went there came back and are now applying this system. I was much upset the other day by a question when I was listening on the television to my sons, the graduates, who will be going to the new land saying: We will take the new land. I was upset when one of the television officials asked a food security official of the party: Does this mean that these graduates should be members of the National Democratic Party (NDP) to possess their land or have an opportunity to do so? The party official answered no. I was pleased with this answer. I was pleased when this official answered: When As-Sadat was elected for the first time in 1970, 700,000 persons voted against him. In his speech afterwards, As-Sadat said: I am for the 700,000 who said no before being for the 10 million who said yes.

I would like to add something to this. I want to tell my sons: My word is that the national creed comes before the political creed. This means that Egypt is above everything and comes before everything. This is not what some parties have done or taught. Unfortunately, some veteran politicians are still pursuing old policies. We must abolish this, God willing, by our new practices.

I want to tell the children that, as Egyptians, they should safeguard Egypt as a homeland before thinking of their political right as members of the NDP, whether it is in rule or out. Let us know, my sons, that the national creed means putting Egypt above parties, persons, entities, selfishness and everything. Consequently, each of my sons and daughters, the graduates, has a claim on the government. This is an NDP government and it will provide for their needs.

I believe in the Islamic principle of Ibn Hazm which is reiterated in the most remote hamlets. As a guardian, I will be asked until the day of resurrection: Why didn't you provide the minimum of honest life for so and so of such a hamlet in the countryside so he is not in need or humiliated? If I advocate this, how then can I discriminate between children in the NDP and others outside. No. The NDP, in my opinion, belongs to all Egypt. The NDP does not belong to the majority in the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council. The NDP belongs to every citizen who believes in Egypt and in the values which we learned from Egypt and to everyone who lived with me the past 10 years during which we were able to rectify the mistakes of 181 years in the distant past and 111 years in the recent past.

I hope I will be given the opportunity to sit down together with the teachers. I promised them this in order that I may give them what I have to rewrite histroy for our sons in installments beginning in the elementary schools and ending in the universities. As I have told you, I will be devoting my time next year to this. I will be devoting my time to the home affairs--to the relations inside the family, food security, the party, taxes and social justice. I will be devoting my time next year to everything concerning the Egyptian family, God willing.

I am happy we have had this occasion to meet. I might have talked long and I have touched on a subject which could be a little rough. However, I was very keen that we should link the chain together--our past with our present and future--God willing, in order that each youth and child may be able to stand and narrate the history of his country and say what are the lessons that have been learned, what we must avoid because we did a mistake there 110 years ago and what we must adhere to because it is our course.

Our course which I want for every citizen is the course of strength, which God Almighty willed. It is the honest strength. Honest strength does not mean the flexing of muscles or that anybody should (?misuse) what he possesses--to become strong through what he possesses or through his rank and influence. The strength I want for every Egyptian citizen is the strength that God Almighty has willed for the construction of the earth. It is the strength of right, patience and of love of everything. It is the strength of faith in God Almighty and in ourselves and not [word indistinct]. They say that by providing facilities to the United States, we are rotating in the orbit of the United States.

No, my sons. I am giving facilities because what I said has been proved right too. I said this a year ago. Since then, events have taken place in Afghanistan, the Gulf and Iran. It is a disgrace to say that what is happening in Iran is an Islamic revolution. I will never accept this there. I want here the strong Egyptian man who would say: Never. "This is not Islam." Islam is the religion of right, justice, fraternity and love. It is the last of all messages and religions which came so that the earth may be constructed. It is the religion which sanctifies the mind.

I want my sons to be strong, because God Almighty loves His strong servants. He prefers His strong servant. The strength which I want, as I said, is the strength of right and of faith in God and in ourselves. It is the strength of faith in Egypt and of self-confidence. We should be able to sit with every person and with every big and small state in full self-confidence. I want us to be able to say what we want to say, reject what we want to reject and approve what we want to approve.

In conclusion I want a generation liberated from the mistakes and complexes of the past, which I spoke about. I want a generation liberated from the mistakes of the past 181 years or 111 years, in another estimate, on which I threw light. We have started the age of renaissance and of honest life. The individual must work for the family, our sons and future generation. He must work for Egypt so that it may occupy a high and honorable position throughout.

I invoke God Almighty to make this country, as I call it always, safe and secure and to provide us, we its inhabitants, with all the fruits. Thank you.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES CONFERENCE ON FUTURE EGYPT

NC301942 [Editorial Report] Egyptian President as-Sadat, in a recorded 30 December speech to the conference on Egypt in the year 2000, broadcast by Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1840 GMT on the same day, follows his welcome of the audience to Mit Abu al-Kawm with remarks on the start of the Japanese and Egyptian "renaissance" in the late 19th century. As-Sadat says that Egypt's real renaissance should have started in 1956 when the first Egyptian president was elected, but that the subsequent introduction of socialism blended with communism by the "centers of powers" delayed the Egyptian renaissance. As-Sadat goes on to stress his abolishment of detention and then of martial law. He says that now every Egyptian has the chance to fulfill himself and his country and compares this situation with the "miracle of America."

As-Sadat then says: "In a few days 1981 will come. This means that 10 years have lapsed since 1971, the foundation year. I tell you that I am happy with what has been achieved. I am more than satisfied with the achievements that have been attained in the past 9 years from 1971 up to now and with what will be achieved in 1981."

Turning to his ouster of the Soviets in 1972, As-Sadat says: "I told the Soviets: Out with your experts. I expelled 17,000 experts in 1 week."

As-Sadat then tells of story of the raising of $1 million to forestall World Bank bankruptcy and mentions the help Egypt has received from the United States in clearing the Suez Canal three times. As-Sadat then concludes his 29-minute speech with remarks about industrial projects which he will open in the near future.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 196

JN311732 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Communique No 196 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 31 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our valiant armed forces receive the new year with greater determination and resolution to continue their holy jihad against the ignorant racist enemy in defense of the honor and dignity of Iraq and the Arab nation. Following are the results of their activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Skirmishes between our advanced units in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and the enemy forces continued with all weapons. Nineteen enemy troops were killed and one ammunition stockpile was blown up.

B. Two were killed in Mehran region.

C. Four were killed in Shush region.

D. One of our units ambushed an enemy patrol in Dezful sector last night and inflicted 12 dead. One ammunition stockpile and one observation post were also destroyed in the same region.

E. Two tanks, one vehicle carrying troops, and one gun were destroyed in Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.

F. An enemy troop formation was sighted opposite our units' positions in Ahvaz region. Using all sorts of weapons, we forced the enemy to flee, leaving behind 17 dead, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 vehicle and 1 gun.

G. Our units in the Abadan region engaged enemy formations opposite their positions, inflicting the following losses: 84 dead and the destruction of 3 tanks and 2 vehicles, one carrying ammunition.

Accordingly, known enemy losses amount to 138 dead, 5 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 4 vehicles, 2 guns, 2 ammunition stockpiles and 1 observation post.

II. Our losses:

A. Personnel: 11 martyrs in all sectors.

B. Equipment: One armored vehicle and four vehicles were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 December 1980

Communique No 197

JN011617 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jan (INA)--Our armed forces inflicted grave losses on the racist Persian enemy during their military operations in the operational sectors yesterday and today.

Communique No 197 issued a short while ago by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command said that total known enemy losses were: 68 dead; the destruction of three tanks, two personnel carriers, two armored cars, four vehicles and one gun; the burning of three oil reservoirs in Abadan; and the sinking of one boat in the Karum River and the killing of its crewmembers.

The communique pointed out that Iraqi losses were eight martyrs and damage to one vehicle and one bulldozer.

The following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces continued their activities in the operations sectors. Following are the results of their activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our advance units in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab clashed with an enemy force when it tried to approach our positions. Our units forced the force to retreat. It left behind 13 dead.

B. One of our combat patrols clashed with an enemy patrol in the Sumar area, killing seven. Our units in the same area clashed with an enemy force when it tried to approach our positions. The enemy force was forced to retreat, leaving behind six dead.

C. Seven killed in the Mehran area.

D. A force of our units raided enemy positions in the Dezful area, killing 20 and destroying 1 vehicle and 1 pile of hardware. Our units in the same area also clashed with an enemy force when it tried to approach our positions. The enemy force retreated, leaving behind 15 dead.

E. Our forces destroyed two tanks, one personnel carrier and one vehicle in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.

F. Our units in the Abadan area destroyed the following enemy equipment: Two vehicles, one of which was loaded with hardware; one gun; one boat sunk in the Karun River and its crewmembers killed; three oil reservoirs burned.

G. Our helicopters raided enemy military targets on the Abadan-(Shaykh Budayr) axis, destroying one tank and one personnel carrier. Our helicopters returned safely to base.

This makes total known enemy losses: 68 were killed; 3 tanks, 2 personnel carriers, 2 armored cars, 4 vehicles, 1 gun and 1 pile of hardware were destroyed; 1 boat was sunk; and 3 oil reservoirs were burned.

II. Our losses

A. In personnel: Eight martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: One vehicle and one bulldozer were damaged.

III. At 1445 today enemy planes raided the (Bandarcat) area in Maysan Governorate. Our ground defenses intercepted the enemy planes, forcing them to flee.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 January 1981

JORDANIAN MINISTERS ARRIVE IN BAGHDAD 2 JAN

JN021230 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 Jan (INA)--'Ali as-Suhaymat, Jordanian minister of state for prime minister's affairs and transport minister, arrived here today, leading a delegation that includes Education Minister Dr Sa'id at-Tall. In a statement to INA following his arrival, As-Suhaymat said that his visit comes within the context of deepening bilateral cooperation in trade, transport, education and scientific research.

AL-AKHBAR COMMENTS ON KISSINGER'S MIDEAST TOUR

JN300720 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 30 Dec 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Writing under the headline "The Ill-Omened Return of Friend Henry," newspaper AL-AKHBAR says: The return of Dr Henry Kissinger to the area at this critical stage evokes anxiety and caution because of this man's shrewdness and his commitment to the Zionist strategy. This man is directly responsible for all the catastrophes that have befallen the Middle East. Kissinger is the architect of the Camp David plot and the author of the theory that led to separate solutions and, consequently, dragged Egypt into capitulation and departure from Arab confrontation. Kissinger is also the architect of the civil war in Lebanon.

Though Kissinger has no official status in the new U.S. administration, his visit to the area is aimed at eliminating the obstacles that are facing Israel in regard to implementation of the self-rule plot in the West Bank and Gaza Strip--in the Palestinian land to which Kissinger refused to apply the disengagement process after the Geneva conference--in order to enable Israel to usurp all the Palestinian land.

Israel has sought the help of friend Kissinger to wipe out As-Sadat's objection about Israel's policy toward self-rule. Kissinger claims that he expects to play a role in the next U.S. administration so as to eliminate Egyptian misgivings about the new U.S. policy. These Egyptian doubts are naturally not in the service of the Palestinian issue; rather they are being raised by As-Sadat out of his anxiety about the fate of the Camp David plot. Such anxiety is due to U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan having raised doubts about the U.S. commitment to Camp David.

AMMAN: 200 PERSONS MASSACRED IN SYRIA'S ALEPPO

JN011950 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Al-Mashariqah quarter in Aleppo was the scene of a bloody massacre committed last week by the Syrian regime. Arrivals from Syria have stated that units of the defense squads and the special forces arrested 200 persons living in that quarter, grouped them in one of the city's squares and opened fire on them on charges of providing assistance to the forces that are hostile to the Syrian ruling regime.

Arrivals from Syria also said that Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Ar'ur, professor in the engineering school at Aleppo University, was one of the victims who have been identified. They added that the defense squads continue to raid popular quarters in Aleppo and to arrest scores of citizens. Some of those arrested were women. Among those who had been identified were Nada Muharrik and her daughter Sawsan and others from the Al-Qassas and Abu Salih families.

VOL REPORTS ISRAELI-SYRIAN AIR BATTLE 31 DEC

NC311535 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] According to reports from southern Lebanon, six Israeli aircraft attacked the An-Nabatiyah area between 1500 and 1545 today, intensively shelling some Palestinian positions, particularly in (Ar-Ruwyashah) area.

While the Israeli planes were on their way back in the direction of As-Sarafand, Syrian planes intercepted them and a dogfight took place between them. One plane fell. There are different reports on the identity of this plane.

However, about 10 minutes ago an Israeli official spokesman announced in Tel Aviv that two Syrian MiG-21 aircraft were shot down over southern Lebanon following a dogfight with Israeli planes.

Palestinian sources said that an Israeli plane fell in the Abu al-Aswad area and another fell in Israeli territory. However, the Israeli spokesman denied that any Israeli plane was hit during the battle.

Some sources said that there are as yet unspecified number of casualties.

Remarks to U.S. Ambassador

NC010839 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Since this morning the south [of Lebanon] has been living in a state of anxiety, expectation and alertness for fear of any new military operations in the wake of the air battle which took place in the sky of southern Lebanon.

The president of the republic has summoned the U.S. ambassador in Beirut and conveyed to him the president's anxiety over the clashes which were renewed in the south in a way which endangers Lebanon and the area. The president asked the ambassador to convey his concern to the ambassador's government in Washington.

AL-WAZZAN DELIVERS MESSAGE FROM AL-ASAD 30 DEC

NC301212 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The Syrian-Lebanese talks held in Damascus yesterday were the focus of attention of the official and political circles in view of the positive results that have been achieved at more than one level. These circles expressed optimism that the top echelons will quickly take moves to tackle the pending security and political issues.

At noon today President Ilyas Sarkis received Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan who handed him a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in reply to his oral message conveyed yesterday.

During the meeting President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Wazzan assessed the results of the latter's talks with Syrian President al-Asad and other senior Syrian officials.

Following his return from Damascus Al-Wazzan said that the results of his talks with the Syrian leaders were very positive and that they had achieved more than what he had hoped for. He said that the practical results will materialize shortly.

DAMASCUS: PALESTINIANS' ENTRY INTO JORDAN BANNED

JN011133 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Reports from Amman say that the Jordanian authorities have banned the entry of Arab Palestinian citizens into Jordan, adding that this ban includes all Palestinians residing in Arab states and abroad. King Husayn's authorities adopted this decision prior to the convening of the Amman summit conference and it is still effective. A Palestinian source commented on this Jordanian procedure saying that the implementation of such an arbitrary procedure by King Husayn's regime against sons of the Palestinian people refutes all the regime's claims of concern for the Palestinians and shows the extent of the malice and hostility harbored by this regime for these people and their national issue.

SPOKESMAN ON LOSSES IN DOGFIGHT WITH ISRAEL

JN311624 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--A military spokesman has stated the following: At 1500 on 31 December 1980, Zionist enemy planes strafed the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon. Our planes intercepted them and in a dogfight downed two of them. One was seen falling into the sea west of Tyre and another falling in the occupied territory. Two of our planes were hit; the rest of our planes returned safely to base.

PRESIDENT WELCOMES GOOD-OFFICES COMMITTEE MISSION

JN312002 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Damascus --At 1600 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received members of the Arab Fraternal good-offices committee which comprises Saudi Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Sedik Ben Yahia and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

His excellency the president welcomed the committee members and blessed their efforts. The president stressed that the core of Syria's pan-Arab policy is to fulfill the unity of Arab action in order to defend Arab rights and to support the Arab causes particularly the central cause of Palestine. The president underlined the importance of building Arab solidarity on the bases of confronting the threats to the Arab nation ensuing from the ambitions of imperialism and Zionism and their plots against the Arab homeland.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD WELCOMES NABLUS MAYOR 30 DEC

JN301430 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 30 Dec 80

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad today welcomed struggler Bassam ash-Shak'ah, mayor of Nablus, in his country, Syria. The president received struggler Ash-Shak'ah at the gates of the presidential palace when he arrived at the palace at 1315. Inside the reception hall the president repeated his welcome of Bassam ash-Shak'ah and expressed his pleasure at meeting him. He also expressed the pride of our Arab Syrian people in Ash-Shak'ah's struggle and steadfastness, the steadfastness of our brethren in the occupied lands and their struggle against the Zionist occupation.

Comrade 'Issam al-Qadi, regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's Palestinian Organization, earlier today reviewed with struggler Bassam ash-Shak'ah the economic, social and political situation in the occupied Arab lands and the inhumane Zionist occupation practices of seizing land and evicting the inhabitants. Comrade al-Qadi praised Ash-Shak'ah's struggle against the Zionist occupation and that of our people in the occupied homeland to free the occupied Arab lands and regain the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Comrade al-Qadi wished struggler Ash-Shak'ah a speedy recovery to exert yet more effort, along with his brothers inside the occupied land, for liberation and victory.

ALGERIA

$3 OIL PRICE HIKE REPORTEDLY BEGINS 1 JAN

LD312022 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] A source close to the Ministry of Energy and Petrochemical Industries reports that the price of Algerian crude oil will go up by $3 per barrel effective 1 January 1981. This is in accordance with the decision taken at OPEC's 59th session in Bali, Indonesia, held 15-17 December 1980.

FLN CENTRAL COMMITTEE SESSION ENDS 31 DEC

LD010154 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0001 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The work of the FLN Party Central Committee fourth session was concluded at about 1930 yesterday with a directive speech by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party.

In accordance with article 24 of the internal statute, the FLN Party Central Committee at its final session elected a Disciplinary Central Committee. The FLN Party Central Committee also issued a resolution on general policy in which it reaffirmed the principles of the national charter, the constitution, and the FLN Party fourth congress and extraordinary congress resolutions in the field of health.

After recalling the extraordinary congress resolutions, it noted that free medical treatment constitutes an irrevocable choice and basis for public health which ensures for all citizens the right to medical treatment. This is due to the basic role which the public sector must play.

In the field of energy, the FLN Party Central Committee recalled the resolutions adopted by the second and third sessions concerning adjusting the price of natural gas (?gradually). It also affirmed in this connection the need to revalue the price of natural gas, taking into consideration its important energy nature, the fact that gas is an exhaustible resource, and the rise in the cost of producing and transforming it. The Central Committee supports OPEC's efforts to protect and improve the purchasing power not only of oil but also of natural gas. It also supports the efforts aimed at ensuring the supply of energy to the newly developing states, especially those countries which are in greatest need.

The Central Committee expressed satisfaction with the political leadership's wise policy, whose good effect has begun to emerge as a tangible reality throughout the entire homeland.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON VISITS OF VIETNAM'S GIAP

For Vietnamese coverage of the visit by Vo Nguyen Giap, vice premier of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Algeria, including the text of a joint communique which was issued on Giap's departure, see the Vietnam section of the 30 December issue of the Asia and Pacific DAILY REPORT.

LIBYA

JANA COMMENTS ON SENGHOR'S RESIGNATION IN SENEGAL

LD312125 Tripoli JANA in English 1901 GMT 31 Dec 80

["Commentary by JANA Political Editor"--JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Dec (JANA)--Leopold-Sedar Senghor has fallen. And with his fall he has chosen the word "resigned" to cover his downfall. As for 20 years Senghor ruthlessly ruled his people who (?had) mobilized themselves in a [word indistinct] opposition movement and he therefore, found no way out but to step down.

Because the revolution against him has materialized and become a fact. Today has proved that time is with the people who are determined to get their freedom and possess their authority and that hirelings do not live for long.

Senghor has spent his life in an attempt to dope the Senegalese people, helped colonialism to dig deep in Senegal and fought all liberation. He was an obedient tool in the hands of colonialism, undertaking the aggression against Gambia, killing the leader of its army and imprisoning the patriotic sons of Gambia who refused that their country should be turned into a base for colonialism. Senghor supported rebellion within Chad in an attempt to maintain oppression of the Chadians who were bent on confrontation.

He was brought down following a similar fate to that of his ally, the insurgent Habre, under the blows of the Chadian people. And so another colonialist pawn disappears from the African Continent and with him is discredited the theory of "local agents" which French colonialists have worked to implement for over two centuries. Accordingly the people are [word indistinct] the beat of their ongoing march growing louder and louder while the puppets search for new means to cover up their downfall.

MOROCCO REPORTEDLY BUILDING SAHARA FORTIFICATIONS

LD011646 Tripoli JANA in English 1453 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Rabat, 1 Jan (JANA)--Moroccan forces are strengthening the defences of their positions in southern Morocco and the disputed Western Sahara in the face of repeated attacks from Polisario guerrillas.

Reports here say that the Moroccans are building a fortified line between Tan-Tan and Smara. Moroccan troops are building a sandwall, which is topped with barbed wire and sown with land mines. Radar stations are also being installed.

The commander of the sixth Moroccan battalion, General Fajrani, has admitted that guerrilla attacks on Moroccan positions are meeting with success.

Polisario (Popular Front for the Liberation of the Saguia El Hamra and the Rio De Oro) is fighting for an independent state in the former Spanish colonies, which were split up and given to Morocco and Mauritania when Spain quit the area in 1975.

VOLUNTEER 'JAMAHIRIYAH GUARD' REPORTED FORMING

LD011432 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] The formation has begun of the Jamahiriyah Guard, which is comprised of committed revolutionary elements. The Jamahiriyah Guard is a revolutionary force whose task is to protect the revolution and defend the Jamahiriyah regime which is based on the people's authority. The guard members are unpaid for this task. They are not full time, but they allocate part of their time for this great historic task.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI GIVES SPEECH TO HOUSE, ALLIANCE GATHERING

JN011847 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Jan (SUNA)--In his speech before the gathering of House members and alliance forces on the occasion of the celebrations marking the silver jubilee of Sudan's independence, President Ja'far Numayri reaffirmed the pledge to remain the sincere soldier and faithful servant in defense of the homeland's soil, independence and unity and to exert his efforts for the sake of establishing the mainstays of the self-sufficient and just society under the banners of the May revolution.

The president told the masses that the march which they organized from the old building of the People's Assembly to the Martyrs' Square represents a perpetuation of the glorious stand which was collectively adopted by the people's representatives against the divisive trends. Thus, the national affiliation triumphed over the party, sectarian and tribal affiliation, and the victorious march of the Sudanese Parliament members was carried out on 1 January 1956 from the Parliament to the palace to attend the hoisting of the Sudanese flag under the canopy of unity.

The president said: The unity under which independence was attained, and under which the first march of the parliament members was organized, is the unity Sudan had missed when partisanship overshadowed nationalism, when the banners of sectarianism overshadowed the flag of the homeland and when tribal and racial practices threatened the nation's unity. The May revolution, however, came to defend unity by means of independence.

NUMAYRI CONDEMNS LIBYAN INTERVENTION IN CHAD

JN311958 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Dec (SUNA)--President Numayri reiterated today Sudan's condemnation of the Libyan military intervention in Chad. He said that Sudan considers this intervention interference in the domestic affairs of a fraternal country which will prevent the Chadian people from practicing their legal rights to self-determination free of any guardianship, oppression or interference.

President Numayri said that Sudan's condemnation of the Libyan intervention in Chad emanates from Sudan's concern for the aspirations and the security of the fraternal Chadian people, concern for the security and unity of Africa and concern for the well-being of Arab-African solidarity, which is being subjected to numerous pressures as is happening now by an Arab state's direct interference in the affairs of an African state.

Speaking this evening at the beginning of the celebrations marking the silver jubilee of Sudan's independence, President Numayri asserted that the Libyan intervention in Chad paves the way for an international struggle in West Africa. This invervention, the president added, constitutes a threat, one which cannot be underestimated, to Sudan and to other African states neighboring Chad.

President Numayri stated that Sudan had participated in the Lagos conference on Chad after the Nigerian president's emissary to Khartoum had affirmed that the conference would convene not to discuss the situation in Chad but to denounce the Libyan intervention that endangers Chad's security and unity and constitutes a grave unprecedented violation of the sovereignty of all African states.

Hence, Sudan had participated in the Lagos conference on the basis of this understanding as had most of the participating states. As the conference concluded, it was clear that the majority of the participating states condemned the Libyan intervention, while a minority tried to give legitimacy to what it termed a fait accompli, disregarding the fact that no legitimacy can be given to foreign presence and aggression.

President Numayri stressed that the failure of the Lagos conference was not due to failure in reaching an agreement, because in fact most of the participating states had declared their stands and had clearly called for the withdrawal of the Libyan forces from Chad. However, a minority of states had chosen to play with words, in an effort to attenuate stands. This, the president stated, constitutes a blatant violation of the OAU charter and resolutions under which the Lagos conference was held.

The president described the moves of this minority of states as an attempt by a minority to impose hegemony on the majority after having fallen victim to threats and promises. The president reaffirmed that Sudan, as it had at the Lagos conference, will continue to raise its voice against the Libyan intervention in Chad. He added that out of our concern for preserving the foundations, security and unity of Chad and of all African states, Sudan will continue to work in support of right and justice and against forceful occupation of territory and intervention in the African states' affairs.

President Numayri reiterated Sudan's adherence to the OAU and UN charters as well as to the principles of the nonaligned movement, all of which condemn foreign occupation and reject the use of military force and intervention against the peoples' will.

Rebuking Libya for the role it has played in Chad, President Numayri said that the Libyan forces should instead have participated in the efforts to liberate the Palestinian land, restore peace to Lebanon and stop the humiliation of the Muslims in Syria instead of interfering in the affairs of a Muslim state. Therefore, the president said, Sudan demands the immediate withdrawal of Libyan forces from Chad.

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI CABLES SUPPORT TO 'ARAFAT

JN011509 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Jan (SUNA)--President Numayri has reaffirmed Sudan's inalienable support for the Palestinian people until they achieve a just and all-out solution for their cause. This came in a cable sent today by President Numayri to Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

TUNISIA

TAP REPORTS ON U.S.-TUNISIA AID AGREEMENT

LD311528 Tunis TAP in English 1400 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Tunis, 31 Dec (TAP)--Four cooperation agreements of a total amount of 14,530,000 dollars were signed on Tuesday in Tunis between the Tunisian Government and the U.S. AID. This amount is allocated as follows:

--11,300,000 dollars for supervised agricultural credits for small farmers.

--930,000 dollars for the training, in the USA, of Tunisian students within the framework of the transfer of agricultural technology.

--500,000 dollars for regional development within the framework of the development of central Tunisia.

--1,800,000 dollars for family planning services.

These agreements constitute an amendment to existing agreements in the above mentioned fields and provide for granting Tunisia 11.3 million dollars in form of a loan and 3.23 million dollars in form of (?a gift).

TWO SYRIAN MIG-21'S DOWNED IN 31 DEC AIR FIGHT

TA311712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] In the afternoon Air Force planes shot down two Syrian MiG-21 planes in a short air fight about 8 km west of Metulla. All our planes returned safely to base. Military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that four Syrian planes were involved and that an initial debriefing indicates that the two planes that were shot down were hit by missiles. The IDF spokesman reported that our planes attacked terrorist bases in the area of Tyre and An-Nabatiyah used for training and for departure for anti-Israeli terrorist acts. The pilots reported precise hits of the targets.

PAPER SEES SYRIA AGGRAVATING CLASHES IN LEBANON

TA011052 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Jan 81 pp 1,15

[By Ya'aqov Erez and Menahem Rahat]

[Excerpts] Following the dogfight held yesterday over south Lebanese skies in which two Syrian MiG's were downed, military experts have stated that Syria has been implementing a new policy in Lebanon aimed at aggravating the clashes with Israel in that region.

This Syrian policy found expression about 2 weeks ago in the deliberate bombing of the Marj 'Uyun area. This policy was repeated yesterday, when Syrian MiG-21's tried to intercept Israeli Air Force planes that attacked terrorist targets in southern Lebanon. In practice, the military experts said, the latest Syrian moves have erased the "red line" in southern Lebanon.

According to estimates, the terrorists had intended to operate in the last few days to mark "Fatah day" and the new year. The Air Force operation was therefore carried out to prevent such activity.

POLL SHOWS IMPACT OF REAGAN ELECTION ON ISSUES

TA010904 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jan 81 p 3

[Text] The election of Mr Ronald Reagan as U.S. president has markedly increased the faith in the ability of the United States to handle the Persian Gulf conflict more effectively, but it has not greatly changed the belief that the United States would be more willing to deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict effectively. These are the findings of a national Pori Institute public opinion poll commissioned by HA'ARETZ.

Thirty percent, as against 4 percent, believe that Mr Reagan's election as president guarantees a more efficient handling of the Persian Gulf conflict. Only 23 percent, compared to 12 percent, believe that the U.S. willingness to use force to defend Israel, should its existence be in jeopardy, has increased as a result of Reagan's election. Only 17 percent, compared to 10 percent, think that the chances for peace between Israel and the Arab countries have now increased.

Fifty percent think that Mr Reagan's election changes nothing in regard to the chances for peace with the Arab countries, whereas 40 percent are of the opinion that his election similarly changes nothing with respect to the U.S. readiness to defend Israel if necessary. The poll constitutes a representative cross section of 1,200 men and women interviewed individually throughout the country.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON EGYPTIAN MINISTER'S VISIT

TA311338 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1220 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 31 Dec--Israel and Egypt agreed to cooperate on a broad range of agricultural issues included in a joint communique published today at the end of a 5-day visit by Egyptian Agriculture Minister Prof Mahmud Muhammad Da'ud.

The joint communique, released at Ben-Gurion Airport prior to the departure of the Egyptian guest and his entourage, states that Israel and Egypt agreed to exchange information and publications on agricultural issues of mutual interest. The two countries will also cooperate in agricultural training projects and research. Israel and Egypt will particularly work jointly to implement agricultural projects on the regional and farm level while putting a special emphasis on the development and organization of agricultural cooperatives and related services. Israel and Egypt will also cooperate in the research of arid zones and will work on the genetic improvement of livestock, plants, poultry and dairy animals and on the growing of vegetables and food production.

The joint communique further states that Egypt and Israel will coordinate quarantine regulations to prevent, supervise and eliminate contagious diseases affecting animals and plants. Israel and Egypt will jointly initiate the development of new agricultural technologies in order to expand crops in both countries.

Seeing off Professor Da'ud at the airport, Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon said the visit had been very pleasant and effective and he expressed his certainty that it had strengthened relations between the two countries and had contributed to the promotion of peace. Sharon expressed his gratitude for the Egyptian minister's invitation to pay another visit in Egypt and promised the visit would take place soon. The date for the visit was not set.

Professor Da'ud said he had greatly enjoyed his visit here and, being a farmer, he had learned a great deal from the things he was shown. He was especially impressed by the large crops Israel produces from small tracts of land. Da'ud said he intended to accelerate the exchange of experts "to promote our plans and projects." He added that Egypt could provide Israel with seeds of plants that had produced large crops and expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries would indeed be fertile.

Replying to questions, Da'ud said that only after Israeli and Egyptian farmers had paid mutual visits in both countries would it be possible to set priorities. The farmers are the ones who do the work and they will be the ones to set priorities, Da'ud said. He added that several plans for joint scientific research on agricultural topics would begin soon. The guest minister, his wife and an entourage of experts accompanying him departed for Egypt aboard a "Nafartiti" plane.

POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICAN REGIONS UNCHANGED

TA010627 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] The Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman denied that Israel promised the president of the Venda region to recognize his country as an independent state. Such a declaration was made by Venda's president after a visit to Israel. Venda is one of the autonomous regions created by South Africa for its black inhabitants but, although South Africa declared these regions as independent states, most of the countries in the world do not recognize them as such. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said Israel's policy is unchanged. The president of another region, Bophuthatswana, also visited Israel recently.

NIGERIA

PRESIDENT SHAGARI'S NEW YEAR ADDRESS TO NATION

AB010955 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Jan 81

[New Year's Message to the nation by President Shehu Shagari--live or recorded]

[Text] My fellow citizens, on this first day of the new year, 1981, I want to take the opportunity to wish you all a happy new year. In the year 1980, the nation made considerable strides in the achievement of our political, economic and social objectives through the successful execution of the laudable program and policies of the government of the federation.

We also witnessed natural and man-made disasters which brought grief and unhappiness to thousands of homes. We had incidents of erosion and floods which claimed the lives and properties of our citizens. The year 1980 closed on a particularly sad note: the disturbance in Kano, which was precipitated by some religious fanatics, posed a serious threat to peace and the security of the nation.

The religious fanatics, who are mainly citizens of neighboring African countries, decided to undermine the nation's peace and abuse the hospitality which we had traditionally extended to our African brothers in the interest of continental unity. We put down the challenge at the cost of lives of our armed forces and police personnel. Innocent, peace-loving citizens also lost their lives and property during the disturbance. I wish to restate the nation's gratitude to its armed forces and police for so ably controlling the situation and also to extend heart-felt condolences on behalf of all Nigerians, to all those who have lost their children, men and women folk as well as properties, in the disturbance. They have made the ultimate sacrifice so that generations may continue to live in peace and tranquility.

Fellow citizens, as you all know, I have ordered a full investigation into the disturbance. We can go to the bottom of it and determine the possible involvement of external forces who are working toward destabilizing the nation for the reasons that they fear Nigeria's great influence and positive involvement in international relations. In this position, we will also determine how and why the nation's security agencies were not able to mop up the build up in this country of what appeared to have been a guerrilla movement.

The lesson that we must draw from the time of disturbance is the danger of the existence in our country of religious, political and tribal extremeties. I want to draw attention to the fact that in some parts of the country, attempts are being made by some people to appeal to and work up tribal sentiments. Unwholesome attacks have been launched on federal institutions and projects for purely political reasons. These institutions and projects exist and are undertaken in the interest of the people of this country. I appeal to these people not to lose sight of this fact. It is the interest of the people, whom we have all resolved to serve, that must be supreme. Whatever institutions and projects we create, whether at federal level or at state level, are created to satisfy the common goal of improving the living standards of Nigerians.

During the year 1980, I had the privilege of visiting many parts of this country in order to meet the people and to be more acquainted with their problems and aspirations. Everywhere I went on those visits, the main theme of my address to the people was national unity and stability in our country. The enthusiastic response of all our peoples confirmed and reassured my long held belief that what is most desired by all Nigerians is peace. It is a matter that meets our constant attention and total commitment. We need to face the old barriers that breed an ethnical and tribal approach to national issues. We need to harness all our energy to cultivate brotherhood, because in the absence of brotherhood peace is illusory. Therefore, I want all of us to make the cause of peace, unity and prosperity for Nigeria our prime New Year resolution.

Let us, in this new year, 1981, resolve to put an end to all forms of confrontation, be they political, religious or otherwise, and to direct all our efforts to the supreme goal of rapid national development in an atmosphere of peace. Let us usher in an era of understanding between the three arms of our government in the interest of progress. The governments must cooperate more with one another and the entire people of this country must give unreserved support to the government which they themselves have elected to chart the course of the nation.

In the past year, we have noticed cases of language of hatred in our body politics. This would seem to confirm the opinion held by cynics that politics in practice is the systematic organization of hatred. I hold a different view. I see politics as a media through which [words indistinct] the highest possible responsibility, understanding and commitment to national affairs.

Fellow citizens, I call on all of you to make it our common mission to fight crime and to eliminate all forms of violence in our society. We all have (?ambitions) to rise, but in a situation some evil elements in our midst threaten the lives and properties of their fellow citizens. This task of protecting the lives and properties of normal and law-abiding citizens must be seen as a sacred duty by all of us. No one can a afford to remain indifferent.

[Words indistinct] In spite of the trials that we have gone through in the year just gone, our democratic experiment has continued to work well. Today all Nigerians can move free and aware of their legal rights under the constitution. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate our legislators for a job reasonably well done. I also want to call attention to the needs and earlier resolutions on some serious national issues such as revenue proposals, local government elections, and creation of more states.

May I also, on this occasion, extend on your behalf, my good wishes for the new year to those citizens of other countries living and working in this country. Let me assure them that they will continue to enjoy our hospitality to the full so long as they do not abuse it. I want them to remember always that while they are entitled to protection by our laws, they are obliged to respect these laws and our constitution.

I extend a message of goodwill to all our neighbors. We pray for them as we pray for ourselves. We pray for peace and prosperity. I wish to reassure them and Africa as a whole that Nigera will continue to play its proper role and contribute adequately within the limits of its resources toward ensuring peace and stability in Africa and in the world. We affirm our faith in the OAU and the United Nations and call on the world community to take all steps necessary to bring independence to Namibia and to bring an end to racist South African aggression against Angola, Zambia and neighboring African countries. Nigeria joins the world community in condemning the criminal execution without trial of South African freedom fighters and the unceasing harassment of our black brothers in their own country by the racist Botha regime.

Finally, I want to appeal to the churches and mosques to pray to God and to continue to pray for the strengthening of our democratic system and for peace in Nigeria. May God grant peace on us and goodwill to all men in 1981. Thank you.

SENEGAL

SENGHOR RESIGNS; DIOUF BECOMES NEW PRESIDENT

AB311721 Paris AFP in French 1408 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Dakar, 31 Dec (AFP)--Keba Mbaye, president of the Supreme Court of Senegal, in the presence of all court members, received at the Justice Palace on Wednesday the letter of resignation of Leopold Sedar Senghor as the president of the republic. Mr Senghor has been the president of Senegal since 1960.

The following is the text of the president's letter of resignation: After thoroughly thinking over this decision, I have decided to step down as the president of the republic. The Supreme Court is the vigilant keeper of our constitution. That is why I have the honor to hand my resignation to you. Will you, therefore, please note the consequences and receive the oath of Abdou Diouf, the current prime minister, who replaces me.

The Supreme Court noted the resignation--recorded under number 584--and asked President Senghor to remain in office until his successor has been installed. Mr Abdou Diouf will be sworn in on Thursday at 1030 GMT at a ceremony to be held at the Supreme Court.

For the moment the Senegalese opposition does not constitute any danger to the new president because it is not united. Two attempts by the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS)--the only opposition party represented at the National Assembly, with 17 seats out of 100--to bring the various parties, legal or illegal, to a conference before President Senghor's resignation failed.

Some circles close to the ruling party favor a broadening of the present four-party system--the four recognized parties are the Socialist Party, the PDS, the African Independence Party (Marxist) and the Senegalese Republican Movement--to embrace other parties like the National Democratic Rally (RND) of the well-known Egyptologist, Cheikh Anta Diop. They argue that this broadening will show that the illegal opposition--which apart from the RND is composed of communists, Maoists, Trotskyists and self-management advocates--have fewer votes than it claims.

But the major crucial factor in Senegalese politics is the influence of the two Muslim sects (87 percent of Senegalese are Muslims), the Tidjanes and the Mourides. They supported President Senghor who, as a Christian, supported neither of these groups.

Mr Diouf was born a Tidjane, but above all he is a high state official.

Receiving President Senghor on 27 December, Abdou Lahat Mbacke, caliph general of the Mourides, said that he would continue to work for anybody who is willing to help the people.

Observers believe Mr Abdou Diouf, who in many respects is a man of learning, must show that he is a man of the people in order to convince the people to accept the sacrifices required in the recovery plan he launched this year with the aid of the IMF. The implementation of this plan will be made difficult by the 1980 peanut harvest, with only 350,000 tons sold--less than half the normal amount. Another problem is the world crisis: Senegal's oil bill, as a nonproducer of oil, has multiplied tenfold since 1973.

The new president himself negotiated in Paris, in July, French financial assistance totaling 21.5 billion CFA francs, [figures indistinct] French francs, within the framework of Senegal's recovery plan. It is probable that his term of office will mean no change in good French-Senegalese relations.

Diouf, Mbaye Remarks

AB011748 Paris AFP in French 1145 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Dakar, 1 Jan (AFP)--On Thursday morning, Abdou Diouf became the second president of the Republic of Senegal after being sworn in before the Supreme Court at 1101 GMT, while the resignation of Leopold Sedar Senghor, who had been this country's president since independence in 1960, took effect.

Mr Diouf has become head of state according to the 1 April 1976 constitutional amendment which stipulates that if the president resigns, the incumbent prime minister will become the head of state until the end of the current term of office. The new head of state will therefore be in office until April 1983, when the presidential election will be held.

Mr Diouf was sworn in by Keba Mbaye, the first president of the Supreme Court. The text of the oath is as follows:

I swear before the Senegalese nation that I will faithfully assume my duties as president of the Republic of Senegal; I will scrupulously follow and enforce the constitution and [words indistinct] with all my strength to defend the constitutional institutions, the territorial integrity and the national independence; and lastly, I will leave no stone unturned to contribute to the achievement of African unity.

In a speech before swearing in the new head of state, Keba Mbaye, the first president of the Supreme Court, called for political openness. Let us together create a system that will reward competence, hard work and integrity, he said, leaving out no one. This will not, however, prevent each individual from keeping his own identity, his own ideas and his own particular methods. I do not mean we should make a vain attempt to achieve an illusive and deceitful unanimity; instead, I mean we should construct a perfect and positive national solidarity with a view to undertaking concepted actions aimed solely at saving our people from poverty and immorality and at achieving social justice.

Keba Mbaye also called for the adoption of a new voting system under judicial supervision both before and after elections, thus removing any doubts about the elections results. He added that those who are ruling and those who are being ruled--whether they are members of political parties or not--must also accept without any mental reservation the principle of changes in the leadership of the state.

Mr Mbaye said he made the suggestions because Senegal is going through a crucial stage in its history. Our friends are attentive to each of our heart beats, and our enemies are already hoping that we may embark upon an adventurous undertaking. Some Senegalese are tense; the Senegalese people are tired. This is the case in both rural areas and suburbs. The essential thing is to overcome the situation with dignity and safeguard the territorial integrity and independence of our country, the democratic achievements of our people and the sanctity of our constitution. This cannot be done by one man--and not even by one party. It is incumbent upon every Senegalese citizen to demonstrate maturity in order to keep our country from embarking on adventures. Each of us must bury his personal ambitions and forget past wrangling in the exclusive interest of the nation, Mr Mbaye said in conclusion.

ABDOU DIOUF NAMES HABIB THIAM PRIME MINISTER

AB011410 Paris AFP in French 1402 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Dakar, 1 Jan (AFP)--Mr Habib Thiam was named on Thursday as prime minister of Senegal by Mr Abdou Diouf, the new president of the republic. Mr Thiam is president of the parliamentary group of the ruling Socialist Party and a former minister.